TOKYOPOP
RECAST
Seung Hui Kye
3

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THE MANGA REVOLUTION CONTINUES

FANTASY

AGE 13+

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Recast is the magical adventure story of a boy,

JD, who wants to be the Master of Magicians

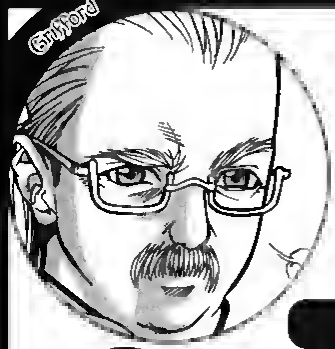
in a world full of magical particles, BOXES.

JD is chased by assassins and monsters

because of his latent abilities, which had been secret.

God sends enemies against JD and just watches.

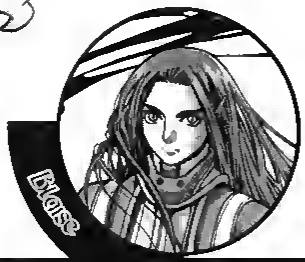
Will JD become the Master of Magicians?



RECAST

JD

ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS A REALM DIVIDED INTO THREE--THE FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH WORLDS. THE SIXTH WORLD IS LIKE A PARADISE, THE FOURTH LIKE HELL. IN THE FIFTH WORLD, ON A DISK SEPARATED INTO TWO LEVELS, LIVE ALL INBETWEEN...

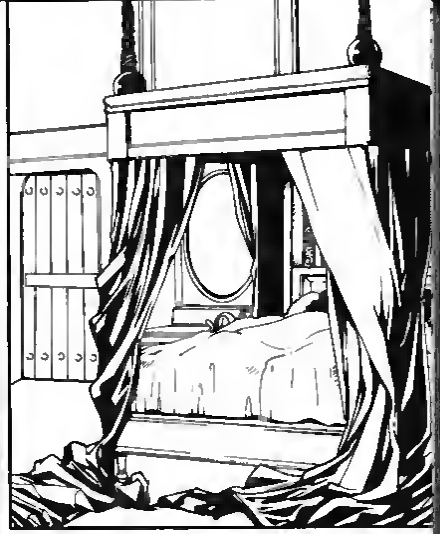


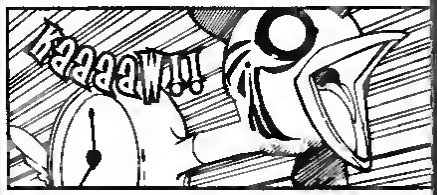
TWELVE-YEAR OLD JD IS A YOUNG BOY WHO WAS RAISED BY HIS GRANDFATHER, GRIFFORD, IN THE FIFTH WORLD.

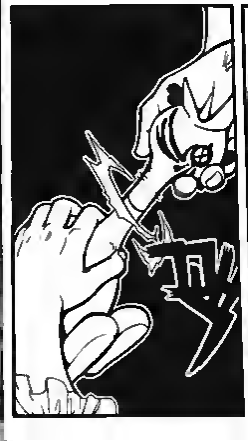
JD HAS TWO SPELLS CAST ON HIM--AN ELECTRIFYING CHASTITY SPELL AND A MYSTERIOUS RECAST SPELL.

AFTER A PUPPET BOUNTY HUNTER OF THE FOURTH WORLD KILLED GRIFFORD, JD OBEYED HIS LAST WISHES AND FLED TO THE JADE REGION. HE'S LOOKING FOR THE LORD--RUMORED TO BE A VAMPIRE!

JADE REGION LORD'S




BRRRRRRR!!!



YAWN
...

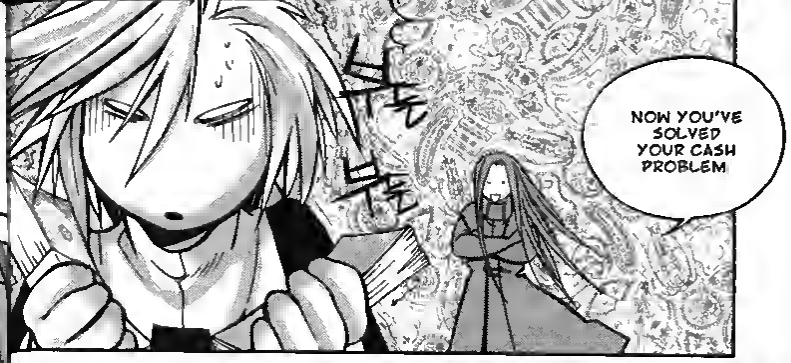
THIS SCENT...!
EEK
YOU'RE THE MONSTER?
I'M NOT A MONSTER! AND YOU CAN SEE ME?!
I SMELL THE BLOOD OF AN OUTSIDER.
RIGHT, I KNOW!
IT'S BEEN AWHILE...
...SINCE WE'VE HAD A TASTY TREAT.
...
HOW CAN THIS BE? WITH ONE ATTACK, HE CUT THROUGH MY SHIELD! ONLY ONE WEAPON CAN DO THAT!

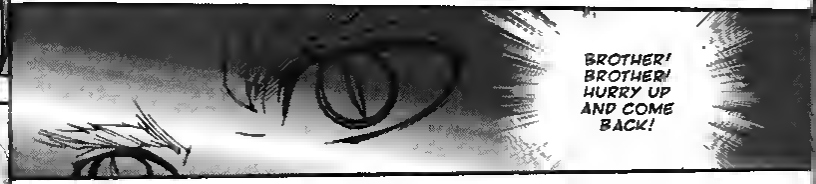
I CAN SEE YOU PRETTY CLEARLY.
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE MUCH OF A GUARDIAN GOD TO ME.
I THINK YOU'RE FAIR GAME
ARE YOU...
...JD?
HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? IF YOU CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE...
YOU MUST BE HERE TO SEE ME!
BUT THAT MAKES YOU...
BUT THAT WOULD MEAN...
...THIS CHILD IS...

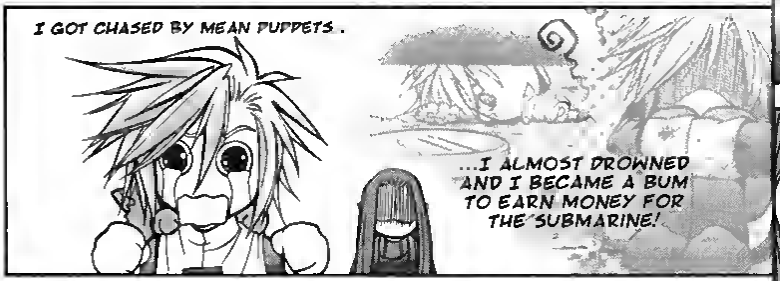
YOU'RE BLAISE?
You're not some fat, bald guy?
BLAISE. GRIFFORD'S FRIEND AND LORD OF THE JADE REGION.
WAIT! HOW DID YOU KNOW...
...I WAS JD?
YOUR WEAPON. THE UST-1000s.
THEY'RE PART OF A SET. THE OTHER PIECE IS THE "RED SHIELD," WHICH GRIFFORD GAVE ME.
FINALLY...
AT LAST...
I MADE IT.
SILK SHEETS AND FANCY FEASTS, I'M COMING!
NO MORE SLEEPING UNDER THE STARS!
I CAN'T HELP YOU.
I'M SORRY. YOUR JOURNEY MUST HAVE BEEN HARD.

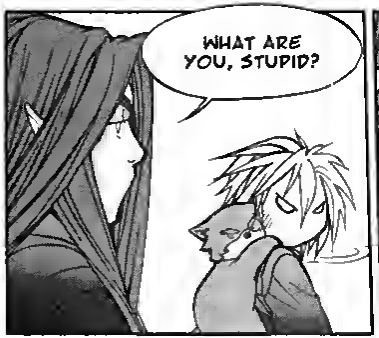
HOW COULD YOU SAY THAT?
...
I KNOW OF GRIFFORD'S PASSING.
BUT UNFORTU-NATELY, I NEED HIS AID TO STEP ONE FOOT OUT OF THIS PLACE.
OH, C'MON GRANDPA LEFT YOU THAT FANCY ARMOR, RIGHT?
Heh heh heh.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.
TAKE IT.
I WASN'T ABLE TO KEEP MY PROMISE TO YOU, SO...
...TAKE THIS IN MY STEAD.
IT HAS SERVED ME WELL.
IT'S QUITE POWERFUL-- IT WILL CAUSE YOUR FOES TO SEE ILLUSIONS.
GOOD LUCK ON YOUR JOURNEY.
Just tell me to keep it!
WHAT?! HE REALLY HAS NO DESIRE TO HELP ME!
WHY'D GRANDPA SEND ME HERE?
Lord

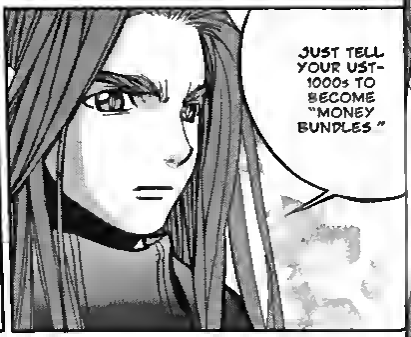
WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO GO?!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I WENT THROUGH JUST TO GET HERE?!


NOW YOU'VE SOLVED YOUR CASH PROBLEM


BROTHER! BROTHER! HURRY UP AND COME BACK!


I GOT CHASED BY MEAN PUPPETS .
...I ALMOST DROWNED AND I BECAME A BUM TO EARN MONEY FOR THE SUBMARINE!


WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID?


JUST TELL YOUR UST-1000s TO BECOME "MONEY BUNDLES"

THAT WENCH! WHAT PATHETIC TASK HAS SHE GOT FOR ME NOW?

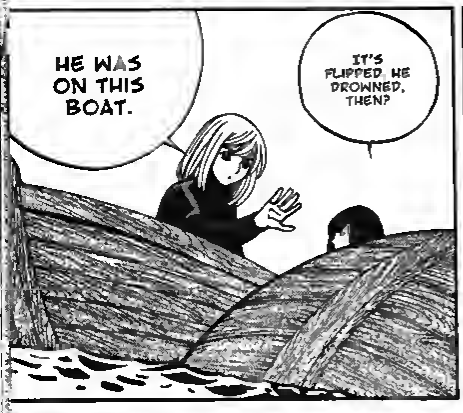
BUT GRANDPA TOLD ME TO COME HERE FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE!
I DON'T HAVE ANYWHERE ELSE TO GO! PLUS, ALL THESE WEIRDOES ARE AFTER ME!

I THOUGHT FOR SURE THAT THERE'D BE SOMETHING IF I CAME HERE!
JUST SEEING YOUR FACE FILLED ME WITH

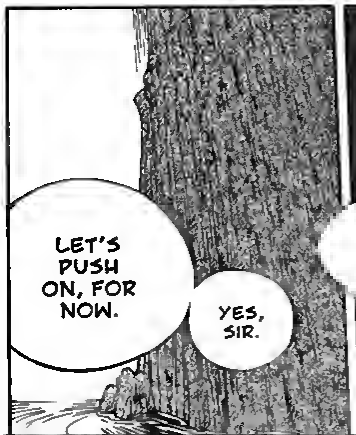
I MUST LEAVE. BUT I WARN YOU.
DO NOT COME INTO THE TOWN.
WHOA. YOU CAN TRANSFORM?! WHAT ARE YOU TRANSFORMING INTO?
WHAT ELSE WOULD A VAMPIRE TURN INTO? A BAT!
LEAVE THIS PLACE. BEGONE!
ONLY DANGER AWAITS YOU IN THE TOWN.
WAIT!

I SAID I HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO! I'M FOLLOWING YOU--SO TOUGH!
THERE IT IS...
DON'T WORRY, GRANDPA.
I'LL BEFRIEND HIM FOR SURE!

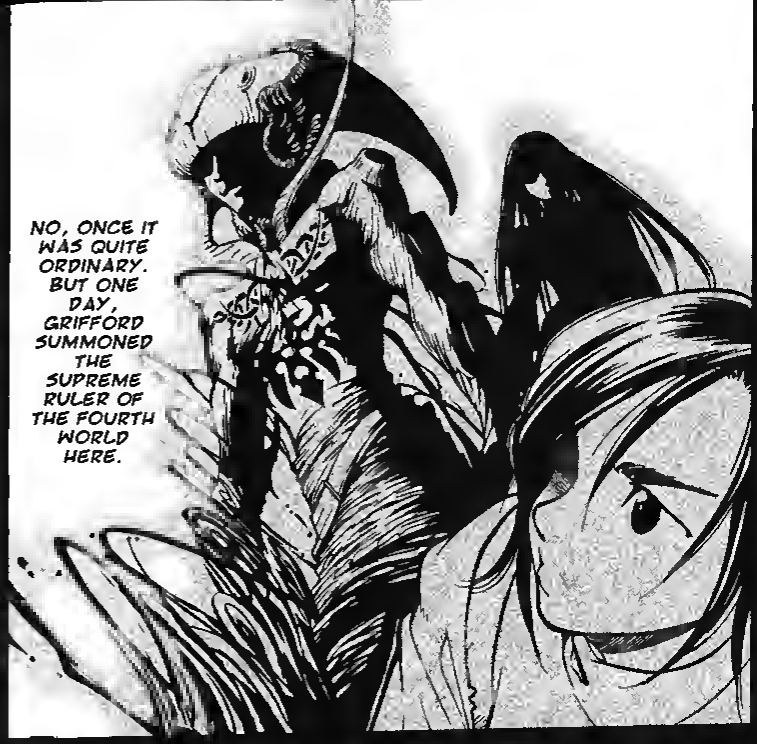
I'M POSITIVE.

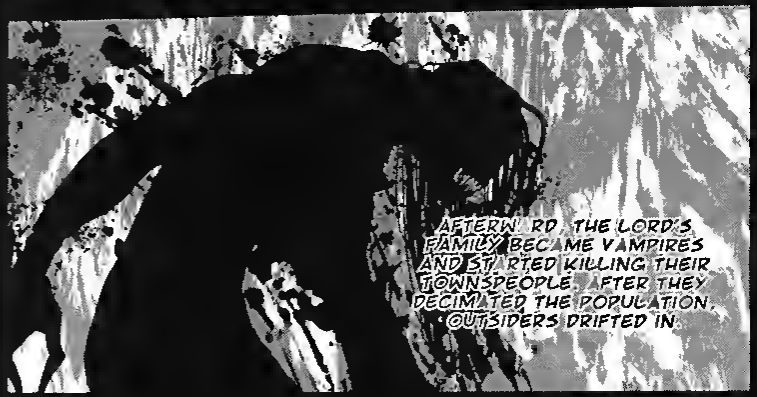

HE WAS ON THIS BOAT.
IT'S FLIPPED. HE DROWNED, THEN?

NO, HE DIDN'T DROWN.
IN FACT, HE HEADED TOWARD TOWN.

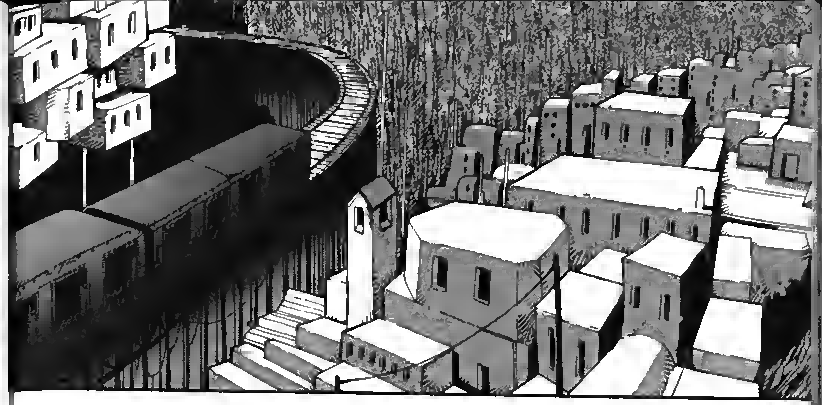

LET'S PUSH ON, FOR NOW.
YES, SIR.

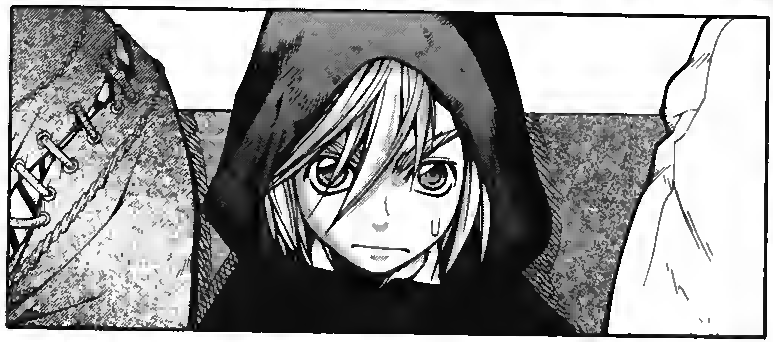
WAS THIS PLACE ALWAYS SO DISMAL?
I WONDER IF WE CAN FIND THE ENTRANCE

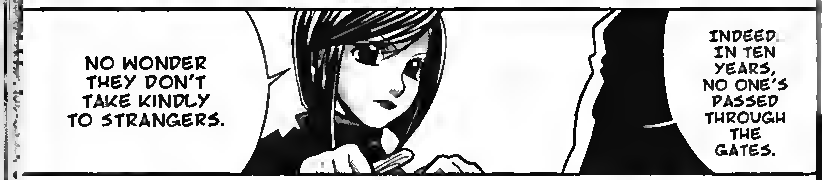

NO, ONCE IT WAS QUITE ORDINARY. BUT ONE DAY, GRIFFORD SUMMONED THE SUPREME RULER OF THE FOURTH WORLD HERE.

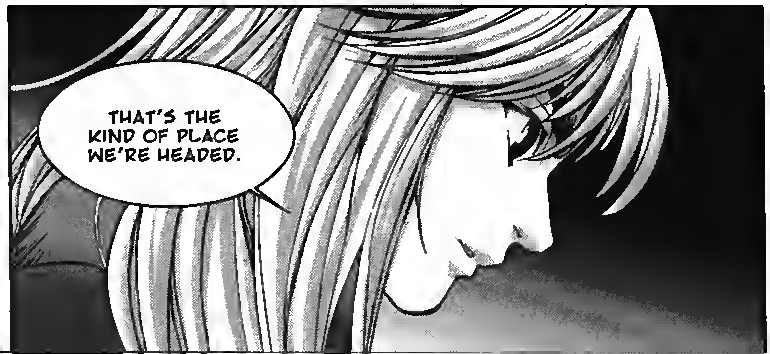

AFTERWARD, THE LORD'S FAMILY BECAME VAMPIRES AND STARTED KILLING THEIR TOWNSPEOPLE. AFTER THEY DECIMATED THE POPULATION, OUTSIDERS DRIFTED IN.

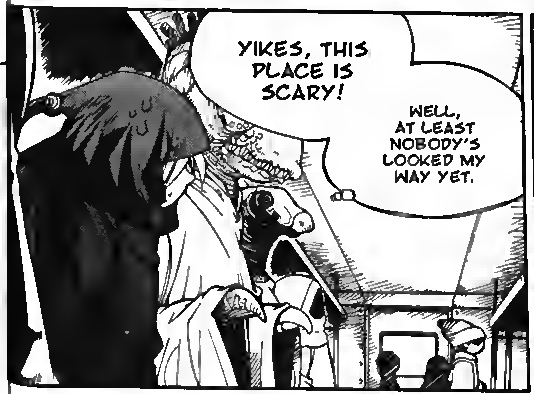
OUTLAWS AND CRIMINALS..
MOST EVERYONE HERE IS RUNNING FROM THE LAW..
...OR IN HIDING FOR THEIR OWN REASONS.

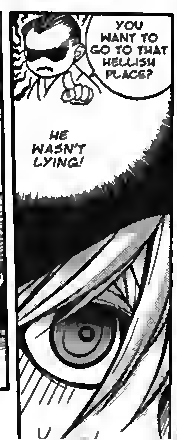





NO WONDER THEY DON'T TAKE KINDLY TO STRANGERS.
INDEED. IN TEN YEARS, NO ONE'S PASSED THROUGH THE GATES.

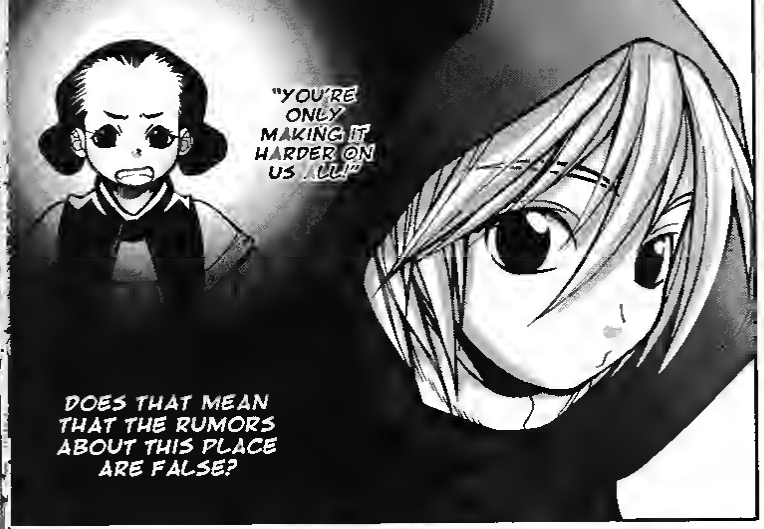

THAT'S THE KIND OF PLACE WE'RE HEADED.


YIKES, THIS PLACE IS SCARY!
WELL, AT LEAST NOBODY'S LOOKED MY WAY YET.

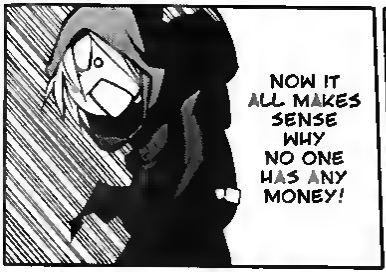

YOU WANT TO GO TO THAT HELLISH PLACE?
HE WASN'T LYING!

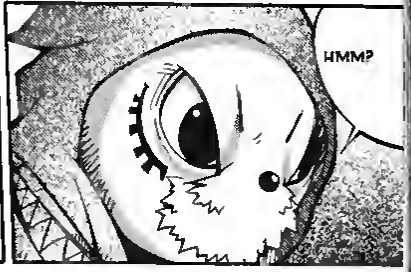
I'VE GOTTA TRY TO ACT CASUAL...

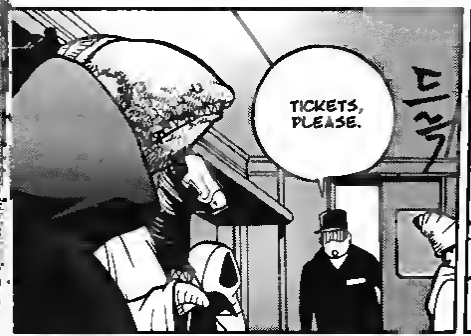
DIDJA HEAR?
THE LORD STOPPED ANOTHER INVADER TODAY.
WHY DO THEY KEEP COMING?
WHY DO THEY KEEP TORMENTING US?!
YOU NINCOMPOOPS ARE WHY RUMORS EXIST IN THE FIRST PLACE!
YOU'RE ONLY MAKING IT HARDER ON US ALL!
I'M NOBODY'S GRANDMA! LOOK AT ME!
LISTEN TO GRANDMA HERE.
YOU'VE BEEN AROUND LONGER THAN US. THAT MAKES YOU A GRANDMA.
TRY TO BE RESPECTFUL!
FINE, YOU WANT TO BE CALLED "GIRLIE" INSTEAD?
COME OFF IT! ENJOY YOUR LITTLE TRAIN RIDE, RUFFIANS!
SHE'S A GHOST!
STOP THAT!
ROARGH! IF I COULD LAY MY JAWS ON THEM--!
YES! NO GOOD TO JUST SCARE THEM OFF!

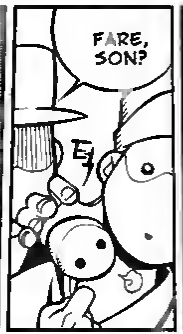

"YOU'RE ONLY MAKING IT HARDER ON US ALL!"
DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE RUMORS ABOUT THIS PLACE ARE FALSE?

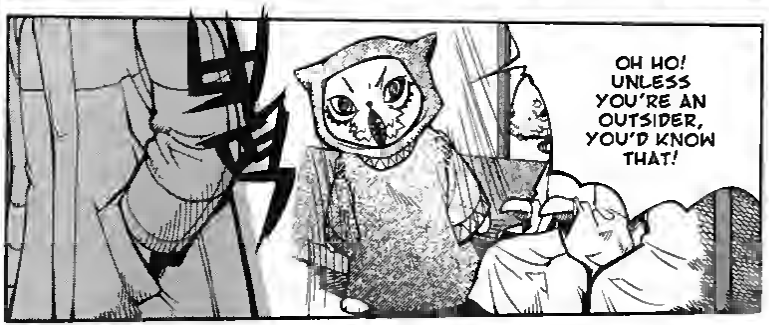
Agh hhhhhhhhhhh
YOU PAY IN BLOOD?!


NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE WHY NO ONE HAS ANY MONEY!

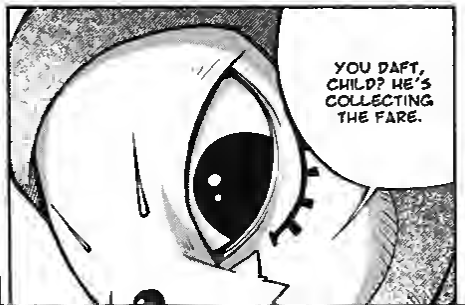

HMM?


TICKETS, PLEASE.


FARE, SON?


OH HO! UNLESS YOU'RE AN OUTSIDER, YOU'D KNOW THAT!

UM... WHAT'S HE DOING?

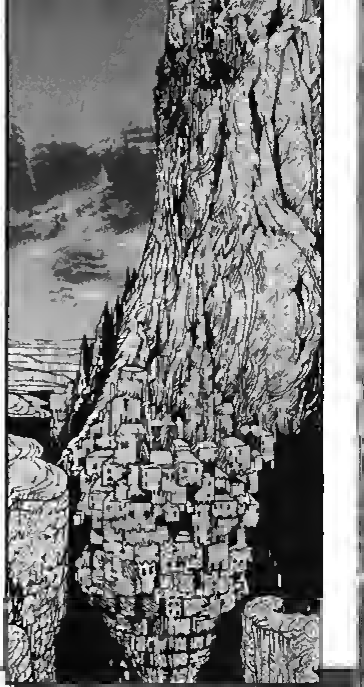

YOU DAFT, CHILD? HE'S COLLECTING THE FARE.

HE'S AN OUTSIDER!

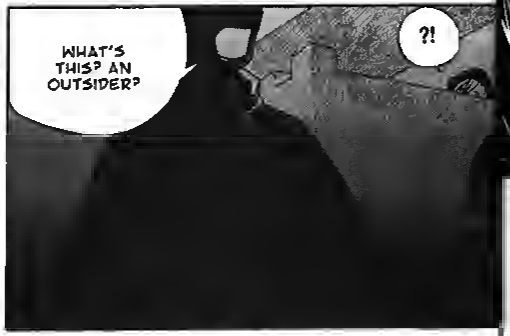
GET HIM!
GOOD-NESS!
OVER THERE!
AAARRRGH!!
Ack! My balance is off!
~!!
Mumble
GOTTA GET UP! CAN'T BE SEEN!
I HAVE TO HIDE!

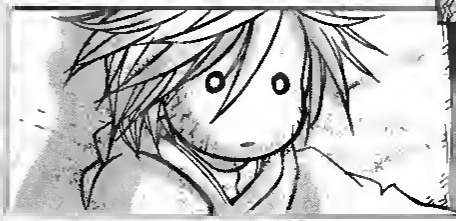
Weeeoo
Weeeoo
Weeeoo

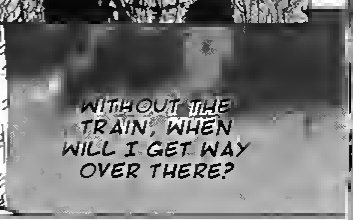
THIS IS CRAZY! I JUST WANT TO GET TO THE LORD'S CASTLE.
WHY IS EVERYONE MAKING SUCH A BIG FUSS?



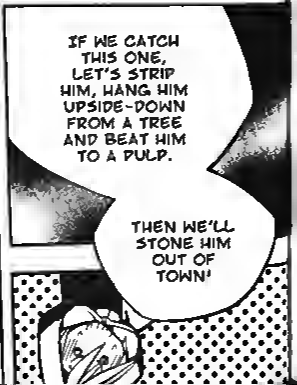
Weeoo
Weeoo
JEEZ, THEY'RE EVEN BLASTING THE SIRENS?
Ack!


WHAT'S THIS? AN OUTSIDER?
?!

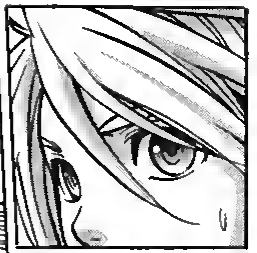



WITHOUT THE TRAIN, WHEN WILL I GET WAY OVER THERE?

HOT DOG! IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE'VE HAD SOME FUN.


IF WE CATCH THIS ONE, LET'S STRIP HIM, HANG HIM UPSIDE-DOWN FROM A TREE AND BEAT HIM TO A PULP.
THEN WE'LL STONE HIM OUT OF TOWN!

Yargh!
SERIOUSLY, WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS THIS?


HMM?

빠~ㄴ히
stare
?
A GHOST--! NO, WAIT! THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM NOW!
I'VE BEEN DISCOVERED!
AH, UH...
UH...
뻘
eek!
△○□×~!!

GOOD EVENING, BROTHER. NICE OF YOU TO DROP BY.
COAT ON THE HONEY, MY JAIL KEEPER.
HERE'S THE LAUNDRY. CAN YOU FINISH UP BY TOMORROW?
.....
OH, BY THE WAY. I SMELLED NEW BLOOD TODAY.
YOU WON'T MIND IF I CALL DIBS, RIGHT?
SISTER OR NOT, IF YOU HURT THAT CHILD...
...YOU WILL PAY.
...
UM...

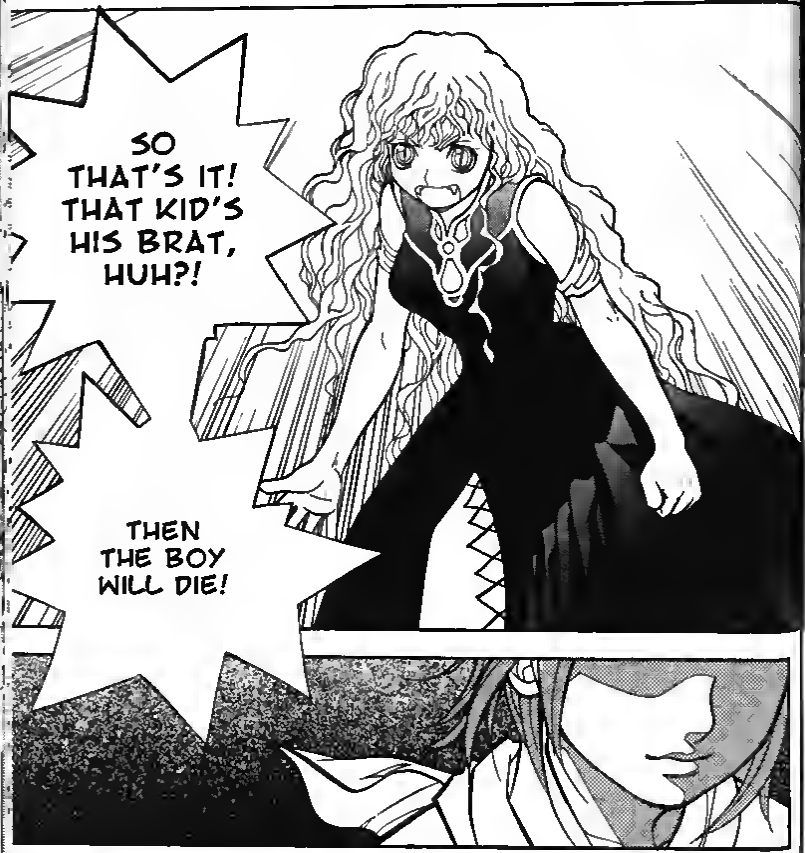
UH... UM...
UM...
Ha...
Ha...
HOW DARE THAT HUMAN BEING, IF THAT'S WHAT HE IS, GET IN THE WAY OF MY PLANS?!
I COULDN'T HELP IT GRIFFORD...
BUT TO LEAVE HERE NOW WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE
THE ADVENTURE I PROMISED YOU, THAT I WAITED FOR...
...IS BEYOND MY GRASP.
FLOATING HIGH AND AWAY LIKE A CLOUD. (-_-)

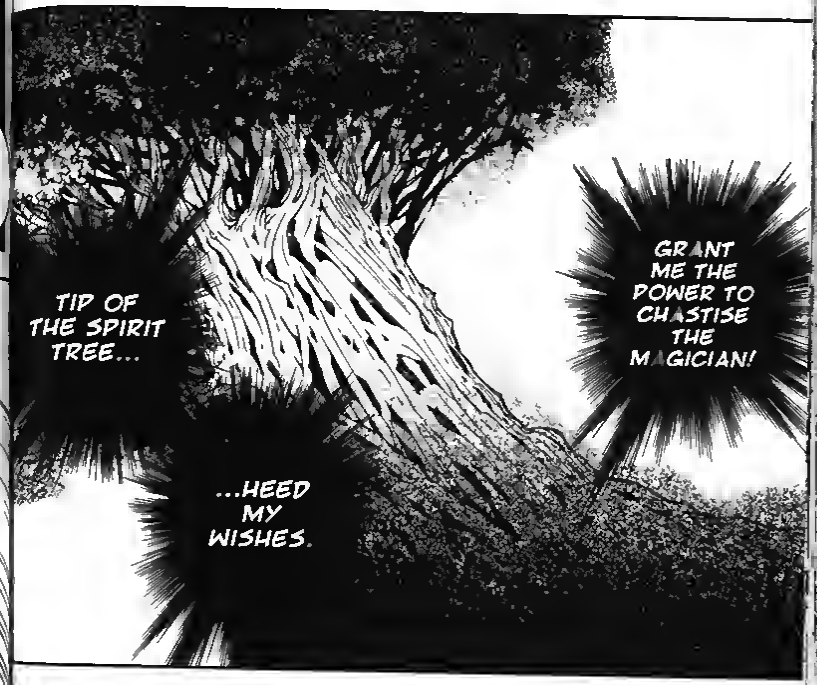
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
HE'S NEVER REFUSED ME BEFORE. HOW DARE HE?!
HAS HE FORGOTTEN WHY I-- NO, OUR FAMILY-- IS LIKE THIS?
BIG SISTER! WHY DO YOU LOOK SO SERIOUS?
I...
BIG BROTHER DOESN'T CARE ABOUT US ANYMORE.
sniff!
sniff!
IS THAT SO?
(Understands everything -_-)
DRY YOUR TEARS, SILLY...
BIG BROTHER ALWAYS PUTS US...
...ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE.
WHY WOULD HE--
ACK!

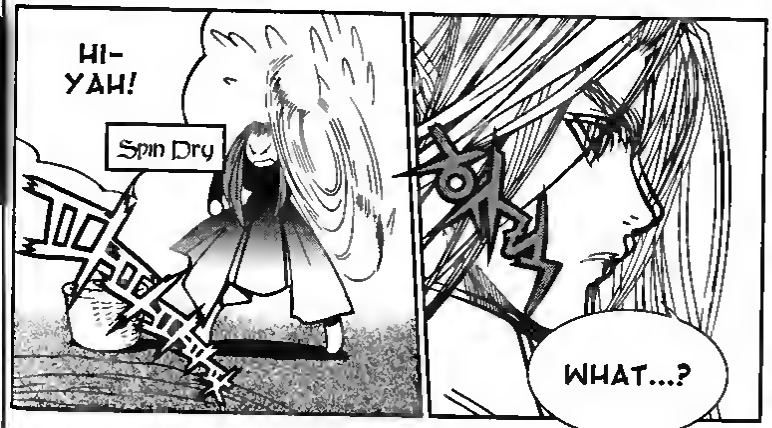
DON'T RUN.
SHE'S GOT A POINT. A LOT MORE PEOPLE WOULD TAKE NOTICE IF I RAN
I'LL HAVE TO DEFEAT HER HERE. QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE!
I KNOW WHAT GHOSTS HATE MOST!
LIKE GARLIC TO VAMPIRES-- RED BEANS!
YOU'RE LOOKING AT AN APPRENTICE GRAVEKEEPER RIGHT HERE!
DWUH?!
OH MY!
DID I GET HER?

Hyuk hyuk hyuk!
WHAT?!
Hey
Young man, isn't it cool to be like that
WHY DIDN'T IT WORK?!
WHY DIDN'T IT WORK?!
?!
GET YOUR UNDERWEAR OUT OF A BUNCH, YOUNG MAN!
LET'S SEE...
COME WITH ME! THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO KNOW.
A hunt in Blaise's room...
THERE ARE BOUND TO BE CLUES HERE.
YOU KNOW, I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE IN A LONG TIME.
LOOK. A MESSENGER FISH AND A LETTER.
"...JD IS COMING WITH ME..."
DID...

DID GRIFFORD SEND THIS LETTER?


SO THAT'S IT! THAT KID'S HIS BRAT, HUH?!
THEN THE BOY WILL DIE!

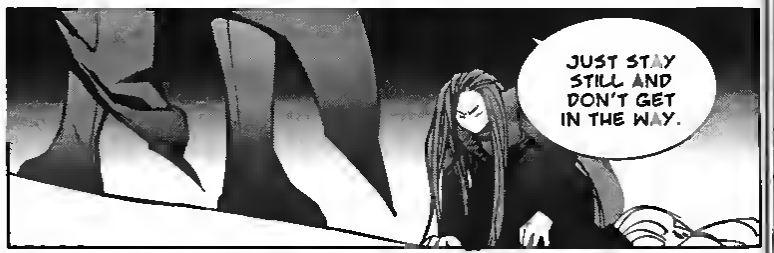

TIP OF THE SPIRIT TREE...
GRANT ME THE POWER TO CHASTISE THE MAGICIAN!
...HEED MY WISHES.

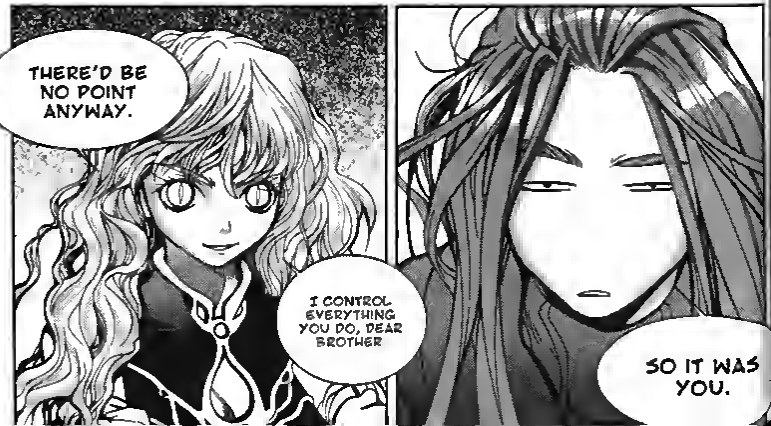

HI-YAH!
Spin Dry
WHAT...?

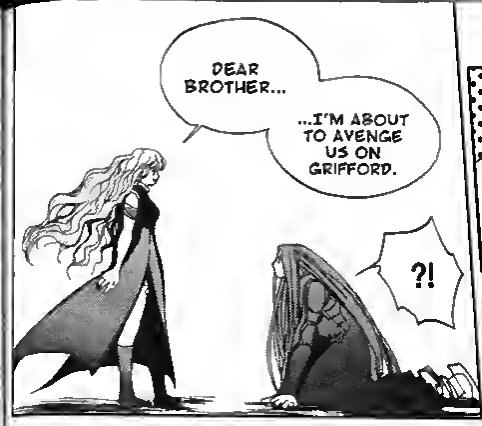
TIP OF THE SPIRIT TREE, HEED MY WISHES!
GRANT ME YOUR SOLDIERS TO DEFEAT THE GREAT MAGICIAN GRIFFORD AND HIS SPAWN!
HUH? WHAT'S GOING ON?!
THE TREE!
SEEK THE OUTSIDER!

MEGALITS!
WHO SUMMONED THE MEGALITS ...?
HUH?
!!

ACK!


JUST STAY STILL AND DON'T GET IN THE WAY.


THERE'D BE NO POINT ANYWAY.
I CONTROL EVERYTHING YOU DO, DEAR BROTHER
SO IT WAS YOU.


DEAR BROTHER...
...I'M ABOUT TO AVENGE US ON GRIFFORD.
?!

GRIFFORD'S NOT HERE.

DON'T TRY TO SHIELD HIM!
YOU SHOULDN'T FORGIVE HIM, EITHER!
NO, SERIOUSLY. GRIFFORD ISN'T HERE.

YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP DENYING IT?

HOW COULD YOU SHELTER SUCH A "FRIEND"?
IT'S GRIFFORD'S FAULT WE'RE LIKE THIS!

I'LL NEVER FORGIVE WHAT HE DID THAT DAY.
JUST TO SHOW OFF HIS MAGIC SKILLS...
...HE SUMMONED THE SUPREME RULER OF THE FOURTH WORLD TO THIS TOWN.
STAY OUT OF MY WAY.
I'LL UNTIE YOU LATER.
WHAT A PREDICAMENT...
TO THINK THAT SHE BELIEVED THAT BALONEY WITHOUT QUESTION...
DON'T YOU REMEMBER TELLING US THAT?
AND THE MOMENT HE SUMMONED THE EVIL RULER, BLOOD SWEPT THROUGHOUT THIS TOWN AND THE LORD AND HIS FAMILY WERE FOREVER CURSED TO LIVE AS VAMPIRES.
THIS TREE IS HERE BECAUSE OF THAT.

AH, I STILL HAVEN'T INTRODUCED MYSELF.
I'M NOT ONLY THE MAIN SPIRITUAL PILLAR OF THIS TOWN, BUT
BACK OFF, YOU GIVE ME THE CREEPS.
WHEN AN OLD LADY IS SPEAKING...
...YOU MUST LISTEN!
...HUH?
PLANNING TO GO TO THE LORD'S CASTLE?
BETTER GET ANOTHER PLAN.
THOUGH... I MIGHT KNOW A WAY.
WHAT KIND OF WAY?
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
SUCH MANNERS, CHILD!
TUT, THAT'S FOR LATER. FIRST, TELL ME WHO YOU ARE.
MY NAME IS JD. I'M FROM A LONG WAYS AWAY.
I CAME HERE TO MEET THE LORD.
(And what in (deity) name? -_-)

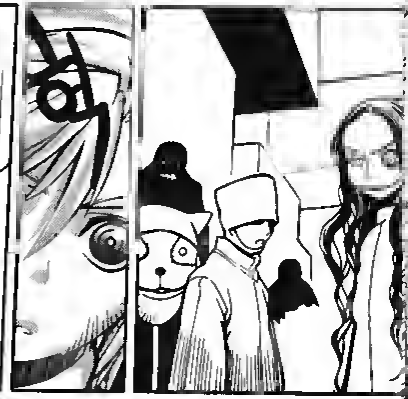
I MAY LOOK YOUNG, BUT THAT'S JUST A FUNCTION OF WHEN I DIED; DEAR YOU STILL MUST TREAT ME WITH RESPECT.
SINCE YOU WERE SO KIND, I'LL INTRODUCE MYSELF, TOO I'M GRANDMA ORUBI, 200 YEARS OLD.

NOW, WHAT I WANTED TO SHOW YOU.
OVER THERE. YOU CAN SEE THE RED CASTLE.
"RED CASTLE," HUH?
BELOW IT.

CAN YOU SEE THE BIG TREE ON THE LEDGE?
YES.
YOU LOOK EXACTLY LIKE IT.

That ghost is mine!

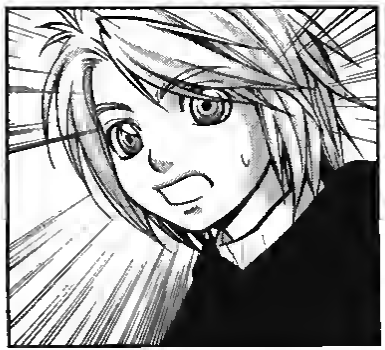
WAIT! DON'T GO THAT WAY!



OVER THERE! GET HIM!
CATCH HIM! WE'LL SHOW HIM WHO'S BOSS!

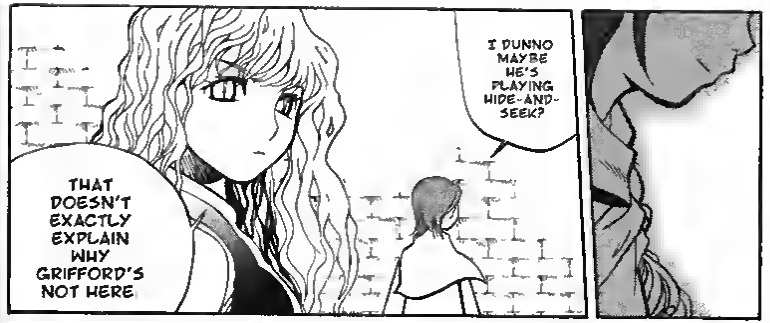
Aw...
DEARIE ME! HE'S RUN OFF AGAIN!
I THOUGHT FOR SURE HE WAS THE MASTER OF THE SPRIT TREE...

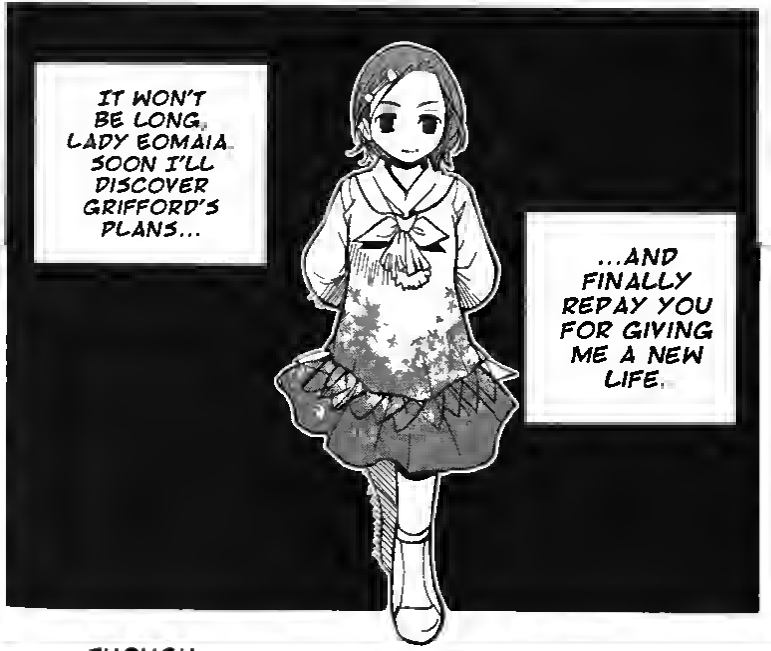
...WHAT?
SCREW IT! I DON'T CARE WHO SEES ME! I'M GONNA MAKE IT TO THAT CASTLE OR DIE TRYING!
WHAT'S THAT LIGHT?



LOOK! A MONSTER!
IT CAME FROM THE SPIRIT TREE!
I DON'T THINK THERE'S MUCH CHANCE OF US BECOMING FRIENDS...

리캐스트
ReCast
PRESENT BY
KYE, SEUNG HUI





THOUGH I PITY MY SISTER CARMEN...

...I CAN'T PULL THE WOOL FROM HER EYES JUST YET.

FINALLY WE'LL BE ABLE TO PAY BACK THE MAN WHO'S MADE US LIVE IN THE DARK.
LIVE AS VAMPIRES.
HE KILLED OUR PARENTS, TOO! WELL, VAMPIRE HUNTERS DID.
AND HE RAN OFF TO THE FOURTH WORLD!
NO CAN DO, EVIL MAGICIAN. BIG BROTHER BELONGS TO US.
NOW HE WANTS TO TAKE MY BROTHER, TOO?
OF COURSE A MERE KNIFE WON'T CUT THE SPIRIT TREE.
...
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN? HOW LONG SINCE THEY DIED?

CARMEN WAS ALWAYS SO KIND...
BUT AFTER THAT DAY...
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?!
A LITTLE GIFT FROM ME.
YOU BRANDED ME LIKE A PIG?!
IT'S A CONTAINMENT SPELL. IT'S SO YOU'LL GUARD US AND NEVER LEAVE THIS PLACE
WHO TAUGHT YOU THESE THINGS?
TEACH ME? I JUST LEARNED IT BY MYSELF

AND WHAT DO YOU KNOW, I'M STILL HERE
HEH HEH...
?!
AND I THINK YOU'LL BE HERE FOR A GOOD WHILE LONGER.

YOU...
I CANNOT LET YOU GO.
YOU WILL DESTROY THE CALAMITOUS PLAN.
YOU SHALL ONLY WATCH!
HAAHAHA!

I COULD TAKE YOU ON IN MY SLEEP!
BUT THREE OF YOU IS A NIGHTMARE!

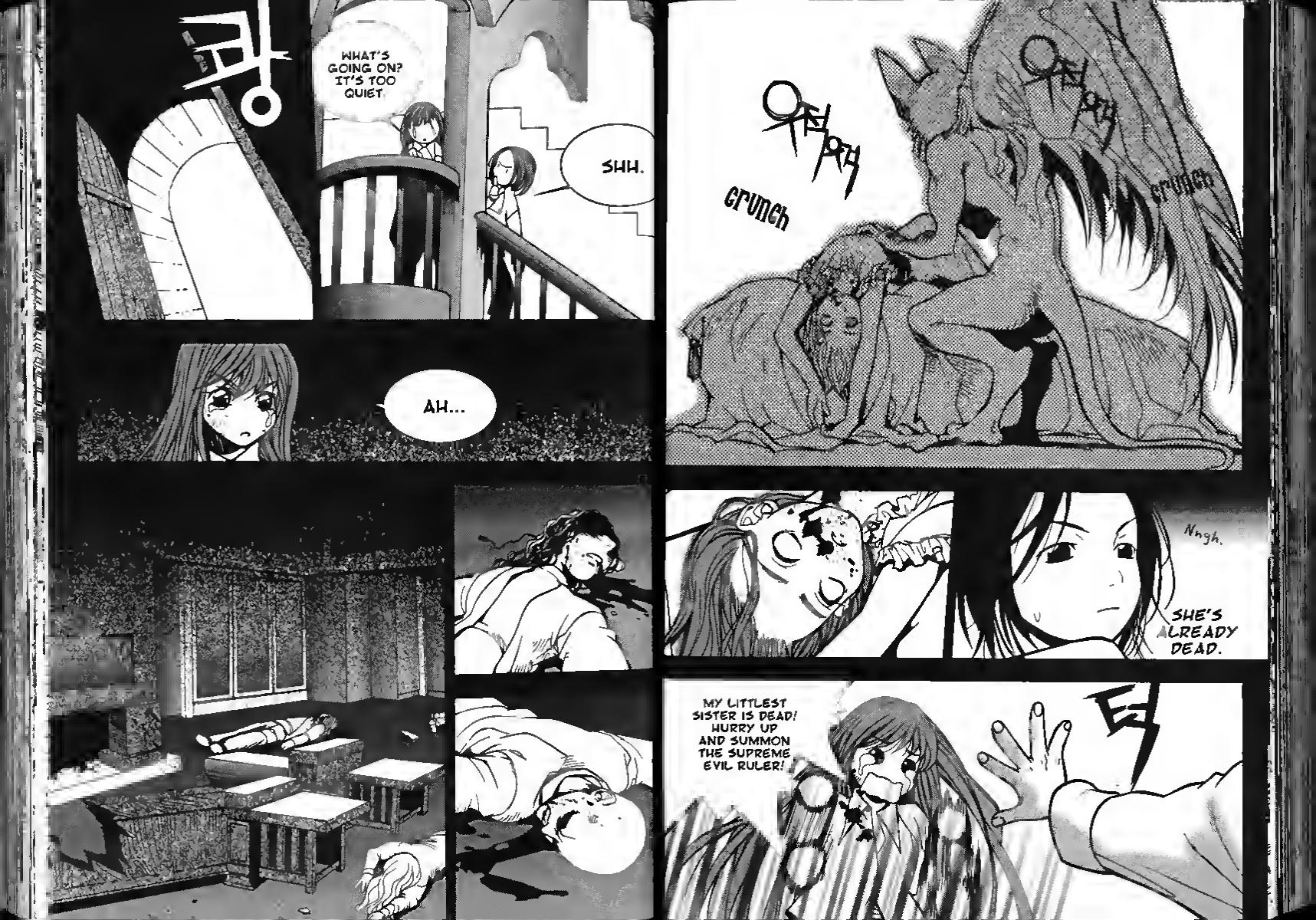
THIS IS BEYOND MY SKILL TO HANDLE.
BUT THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN!
WHO WOULD'VE DONE SUCH A THING?
THAT LADY CARMEN, PERHAPS?
IF SHE HAS A BEATING IN MIND FOR THE BOY?
GET ON WITH IT!
ATTACK!
I'M DEFENDING MY WORLD AGAINST WHOEVER YOU ARE--EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT GRIFFORD!
MEGALITS?
FOURTH WORLD SOLDIERS I RECKON THEY CAME THROUGH THE SPIRIT TREE
HMPH. MEGALITS.

!!
WATCH WHO YOU'RE ATTACKING, WHIPPER-SNAPPERS!
LET'S SKEDADDLE, HON!
WHOSE SIDE ARE THESE THINGS ON, ANYWAY?
THEY'RE BLINDLY ATTACKING ANYTHING!
ARGH!

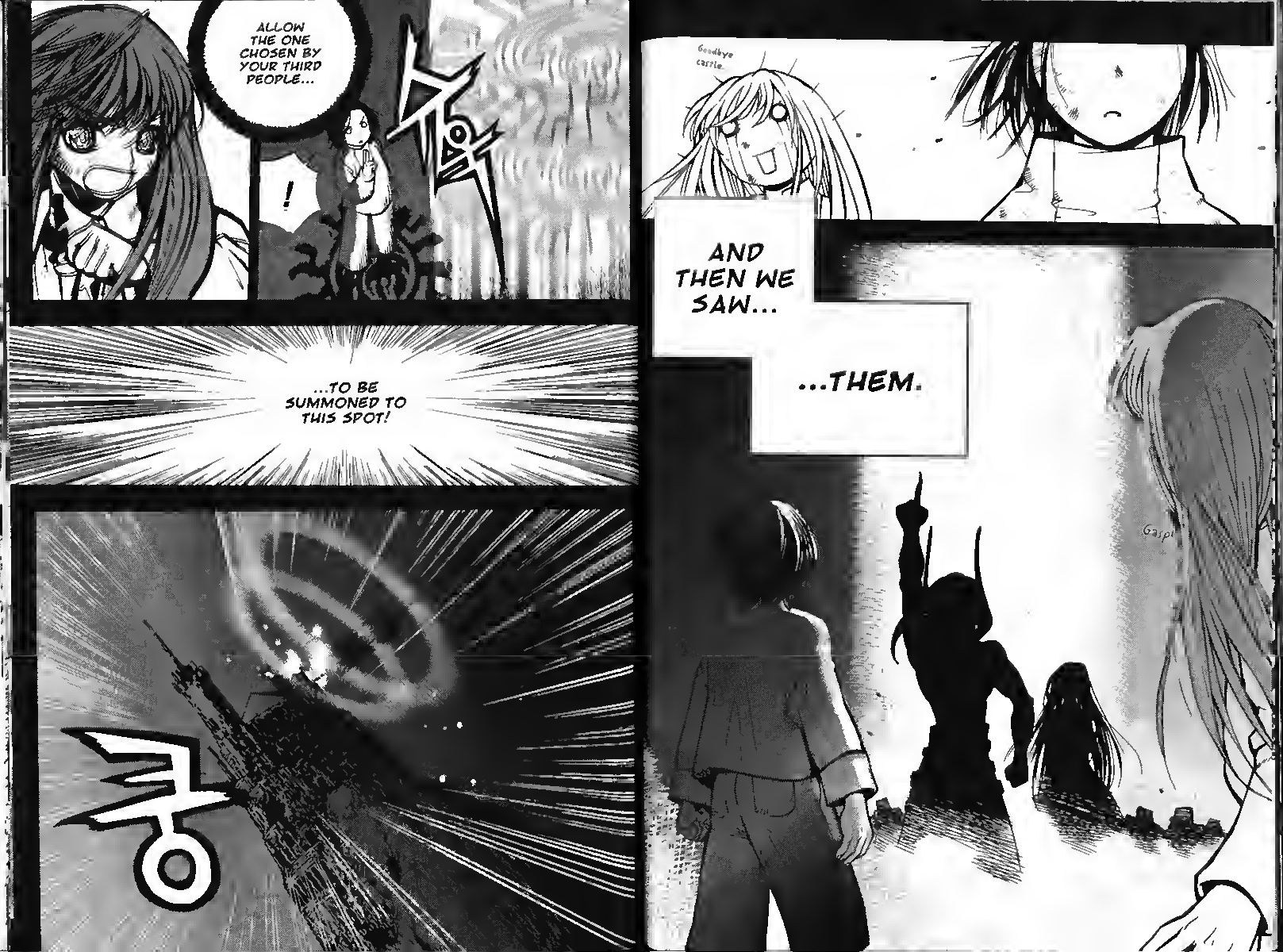
Whoa!
OKAY, THAT'S JUST RIDICULOUS! DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR OWN CITIZENS?!
HE'D DO BETTER TO THINK OF HIS OWN HIDE
YOU TELL HIM
AND ASK WHERE GRIFFORD IS, TOO
LISTEN, BOY! YOU SHALL TELL ME GRIFFORD'S WHEREABOUTS RIGHT NOW!
HELP!
SHE KNOWS GRANDPA?
I COULD CARE LESS ABOUT THE VILLAGERS! I'M THEIR MISTRESS!
BOOM
It's got a girl's voice

SUCH THINGS ARE BENEATH ME!
DON'T LET THE LADY GET TO YOU. SHE'S HASN'T BEEN HERSELF SINCE THAT DAY.
RIGHT, WE'LL LET HER TEAR OUR TOWN APART BECAUSE SHE'S FEELING A LITTLE BATTY?!
HON, YOU'RE ALL TALK.
WHERE'S THE LORD, HUH? I WANNA SEE HIM HANDLE THIS!
OKAY! I'LL TELL YOU WHERE GRANDPA IS!
JUST PLEASE, STOP YOUR ATTACKS!
A PLAN, HUH?
I WONDER IF THE TREE MEANT--
WAIT! WHAT WAS SAID WHEN THE TREE WAS PUT IN PLACE...
...ABOUT THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SPIRIT TREE?
HELP MY FAMILY, GRIFFORD!

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
THERE'S CHAOS IN THE CASTLE RIGHT NOW! THERE'RE VAMPIRES!
I TRIED SUMMONING THE SUPREME EVIL RULER, BUT I MADE A MISTAKE, AND--
YOU WHAT?
I'M BEGGING YOU, GRIFFORD IF YOU DON'T DO SOMETHING, MY WHOLE FAMILY WILL DIE!
Young Blaise (still a human being)
SUMMON THE SUPREME EVIL RULER AND HAVE HIM HELP OUT MY FAMILY!
THIS GUY DOESN'T KNOW WHEN TO STOP
DOES MY WISH GO KERPLOOIE, THEN?
Young Grifford
YOU SUMMONED THE SUPREME EVIL RULER?! IT TOOK ME, LIKE, A YEAR TO HAMMER OUT THE PRONUNCIATION ALONE! AND I'M A GENIUS!
WHAT MADE YOU THINK THAT WAS A GOOD IDEA?! OF COURSE THINGS WERE GOING TO GO WRONG!
YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT!
KEEP CALM, BLAISE. HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE YOUR FAMILY.
MY WISH TO SEE MY DEAD MOTHER JUST ONE MORE TIME...
waaah!!
Waaah! Wah! Wah!
BUT, I SUPPOSE...
WAAAH!!
...THE LIVING SHOULD COME FIRST.
??
Hrm.
Grrl
OKAY. LET'S DO THIS.


WHAT'S GOING ON? IT'S TOO QUIET.
SHH.
AH...
crunch
crunch
Nngh.
SHE'S ALREADY DEAD.
MY LITTLEST SISTER IS DEAD! HURRY UP AND SUMMON THE SUPREME EVIL RULER!

I CAN ONLY ASK FOR ONE WISH AFTER I SUMMON THE SUPREME EVIL RULER
WE HAVE TO USE THAT FOR REVIVING YOUR WHOLE FAMILY.
I'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE, SO I MIGHT MAKE A MISTAKE.
DON'T YOU DARE!
HE'S I THOUGHT YOU WERE A COLD...
..CONDE-SCENDING...
DESPICABLE BASTARD...
...BUT YOU'RE NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL.
THAT BETTER NOT BE YOUR THANK YOU!
COOL IT. THAT WAS JUST A DISCLAIMER. IT'S STANDARD.
I PLEAD TO THE BODY AND SOUL OF THE FIRST ALMIGHTY.
ALLOW THE ONE CHOSEN BY YOUR THIRD PEOPLE...
...TO BE SUMMONED TO THIS SPOT.
IF I RECALL, GRIFFORD THEN UNLEASHED POWERS THAT NO ONE WOULD BELIEVE COULD COME FROM A CHILD MY AGE.
HE THEN PROCEEDED TO DEFEAT THE VAMPIRES. (NOT QUITE LIKE THIS, BUT YOU GET THE PICTURE.)
Kyeee!
HMM?


ALLOW THE ONE CHOSEN BY YOUR THIRD PEOPLE...
!
...TO BE SUMMONED TO THIS SPOT!
Goodbye cattle.
AND THEN WE SAW...
...THEM.
Gasp!

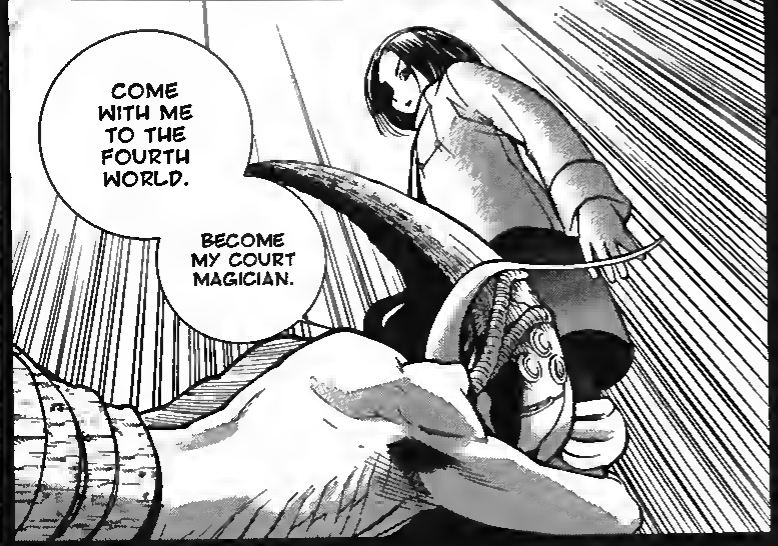
He's just a boy.
I HAVEN'T SEEN THE FIFTH WORLD IN ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS
I DIDN'T EXPECT ANOTHER FOOL TO SUMMON ME...
Y-Y-Y...
Y-YOU THINK HE'S REALLY GOING TO GRANT US OUR WISH?
.....

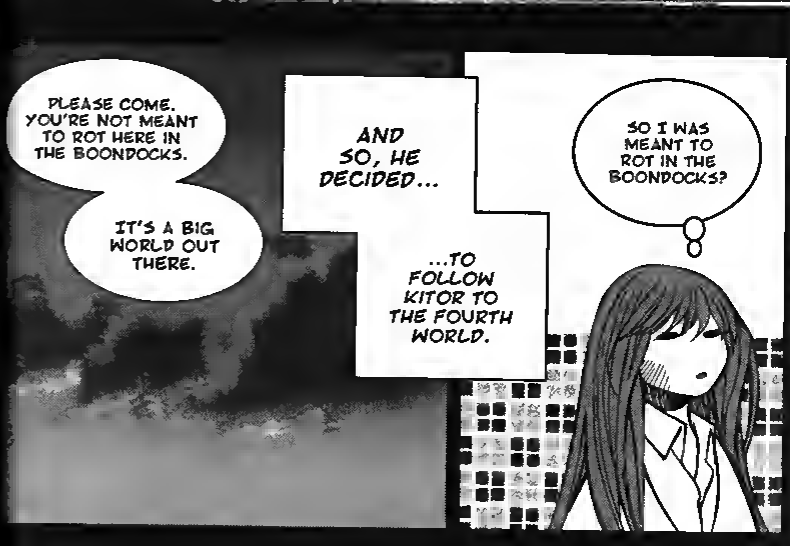
BEHOLD! I AM THE GREAT AND ALMIGHTY RULER OF THE FOURTH WORLD, KITOR!
BOW AND GROVEL! SHOW GRATITUDE THAT I TURNED MY MERCIFUL EAR TO YOUR PATHETIC PLEA!
HELLO AGAIN, FIFTH WORLD
HUM...
DON'T MIND ME, I'M JUST HERE FOR FUN
STATE THE NATURE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
AND IF YOU'VE GOT TO THINK ABOUT IT FOR MORE THAN A MILLISECOND, I WON'T LISTEN!
GRANT MY WISH!
.....
You shall speak to me with more respect! Ever heard of "please"?!
WHEN YOU RESPONDED TO THE CALL, YOU ENTERED INTO A BINDING CONTRACT!
ANY BREACH OF THAT CONTRACT, SUCH AS A CURSE, WILL BE VISITED BACK UPON YOU!
'sup, honey? Enjoyin' yourself?
I KNOW WHAT HE'S GOING TO ASK FOR AT THIS POINT. IT'S A TASK NO ONE HAS BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH, AND HAS LED TO THE DEATH OF ALL WHO TRIED!

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS WORLD, SEVENTEEN MAGICIANS HAVE SUMMONED ME--
--AND SEVENTEEN HAVE MET THEIR DEMISE AT MY HANDS!
I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY!
Nooo!
HERE IT COMES!
I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE A KID!
DEFEAT ME--
--OR DIE!
HMPH! YOUNG ONE, TEMPTED BY THE LURE OF A WISH...
...YOU WERE A FOOL TO SUMMON ME TO GRANT IT.
FOR IN ORDER TO ASK ME FOR A WISH, YOU MUST DEFEAT ME.
WH-WHAT?
MY POOR HOME!

MOTHER EARTH, REVOLT AGAINST YOUR CAPTOR! ATTACK HIM!
HMPH!
BIND.
OH?
GRAVITY WALL!

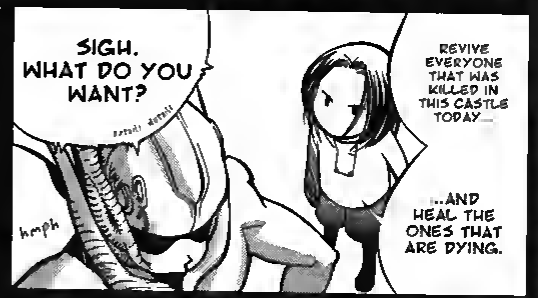
Avoiding Reality
Ha ha..
Ha ha ha ha
Urgh...
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE DOWN FOR THE COUNT!
GRANT ME MY WISH!
WHAT?!
...I'M IN LOVE
YOUR UNSHAKABLE BRAVERY! YOUR DETERMINATION!
YOUR PERFECT MAGIC SKILLS AND REFLEXES!
AND YOUR SMART MOUTH! THAT WAS PRICELESS!
I FINALLY FOUND SOMEONE!


COME WITH ME TO THE FOURTH WORLD.
BECOME MY COURT MAGICIAN.


PLEASE COME. YOU'RE NOT MEANT TO ROT HERE IN THE BOONDOCKS.
IT'S A BIG WORLD OUT THERE.
AND SO, HE DECIDED...
...TO FOLLOW KITOR TO THE FOURTH WORLD.
SO I WAS MEANT TO ROT IN THE BOONDOCKS?

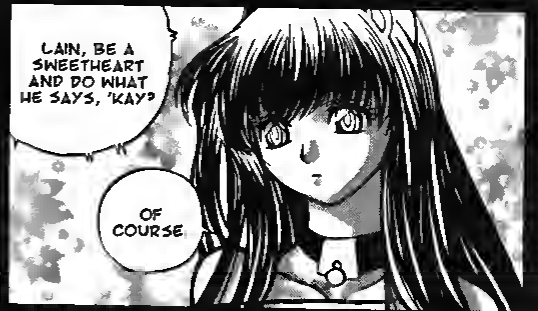
HUH?

MWA HA! WITH SUCH A SPECTACULAR MAGICIAN UNDERNEATH ME, I'LL BE ABLE TO CHALLENGE THE "MOMS"!
Ha ha!
HEY, WHAT ABOUT MY WISH?


SIGH. WHAT DO YOU WANT?
hmph
REVIVE EVERYONE THAT WAS KILLED IN THIS CASTLE TODAY...
...AND HEAL THE ONES THAT ARE DYING.

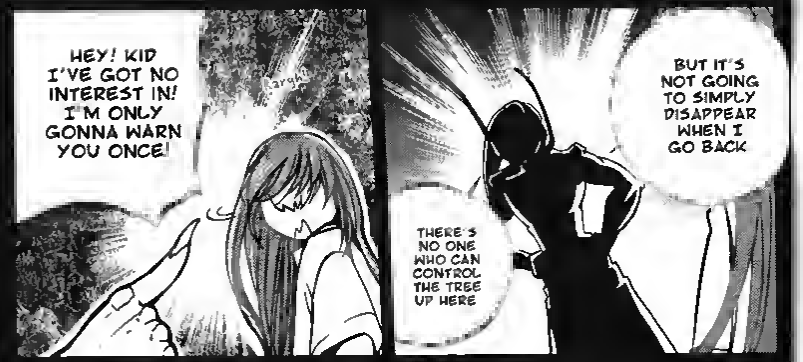
...YOU DON'T HAVE A MAGICIAN?
WHY me?
I NEED A NEW ONE!

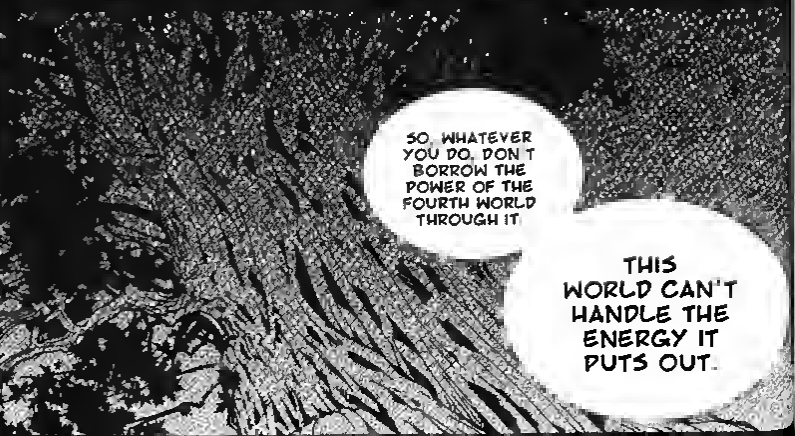
AS YOU ORDERED, I FILLED THE CASTLE WITH PILES OF CRAP!
I SAID "CASH"! CASH, YOU DOLT! WHY WOULD I ASK YOU TO FILL IT WITH CRAP?!

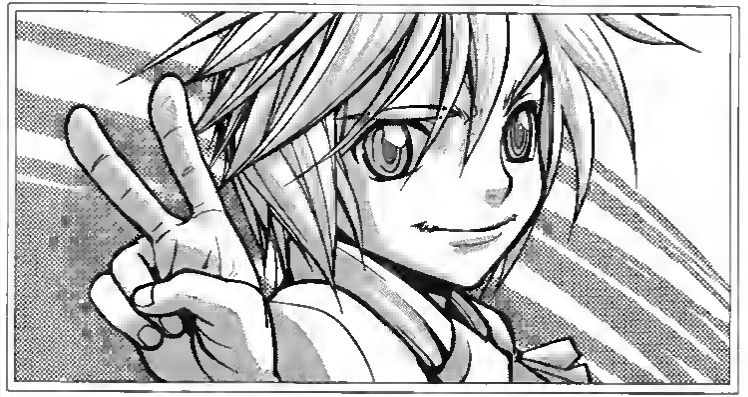

LAIN, BE A SWEETHEART AND DO WHAT HE SAYS, 'KAY?
OF COURSE

HERE.
DILUTE THIS TO A 10:1 RATIO WITH WATER, THEN GIVE THEM A CUP OF IT. IT SHOULD REVIVE THEM.
IF WE'RE ALL SAVVY NOW, IT'S TIME TO BE GOING
BUT, THIS CAN ONLY REVIVE THOSE WHO TRAVELED THROUGH THE SPIRIT TREE TO THE FOURTH WORLD.
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NOW THIS IS A KID I'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN! YOU'RE PLAIN AND STUPID!
A FOURTH WORLD POTION ONLY AFFECTS THOSE IN THE FOURTH WORLD! DUH!
THEN YOU MEAN NOT EVERYBODY MIGHT BE REVIVED?
WELL, YEAH. I CAN'T DO A DAMN THING ABOUT SPIRITS THAT WENT TO THAT WENCH EOMAIA IN THE SIXTH WORLD.

WHOA! WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S THE TIP OF THE SPIRIT TREE...
I'VE GOT A GREAT EYE FOR TALENT.
IT'S THE PATH TO THE FOURTH WORLD
EVEN IF IT LOOKS A BIT DIFFERENT UP HERE


HEY! KID I'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN! I'M ONLY GONNA WARN YOU ONCE!
Argh!
BUT IT'S NOT GOING TO SIMPLY DISAPPEAR WHEN I GO BACK
THERE'S NO ONE WHO CAN CONTROL THE TREE UP HERE

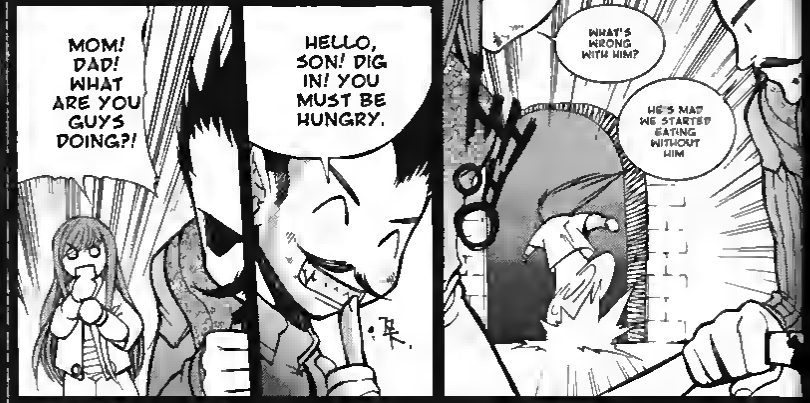

SO, WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T BORROW THE POWER OF THE FOURTH WORLD THROUGH IT
THIS WORLD CAN'T HANDLE THE ENERGY IT PUTS OUT.

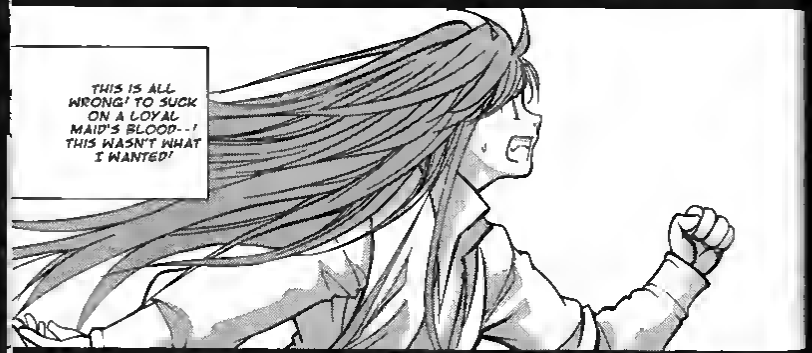


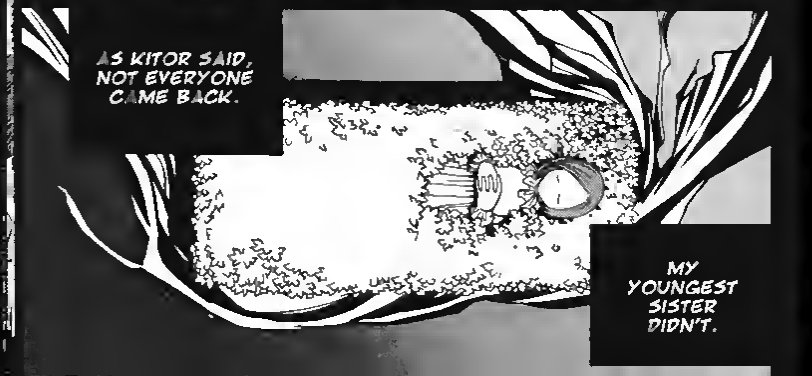
THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT TREE SUPPORTS BOTH THE FOURTH WORLD AND THE SIXTH WORLD
WERE THAT POWER TO FLOW INTO THIS WORLD, IT WOULD UNLEASH PURE DESTRUCTION.
IF YOU WERE TO LET SUCH A THING HAPPEN
NO, NO. NOTHING THAT SERIOUS BUT YOU'D LOSE THE TOWN
CAN'T I JUST CHOP IT DOWN AFTER YOU LEAVE?
HA! YOU JUST TRY!
IT'D BE THE END OF THE WORLD?!
THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT TREE IS MY POWER.
IT'LL RUN LOOSE WITHOUT ME, SO YOU'RE TAKING YOUR LIFE IN YOUR HANDS.
SETTLED? GOOD. NOW, LET'S GO HOME!

YIKES!
ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO FOLLOW THEM? TO A PLACE YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW?
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING.
THE PATH IS THROUGH THAT MONSTER'S MOUTH?
YOU'RE NOT A SCAREDY-CAT, ARE YOU?
crunch
crunch
OH MY GOD!
I'VE BEEN DREAMING MY WHOLE LIFE...
...OF DOING SOMETHING NOBODY'S DONE IN A PLACE NO ONE'S EVER BEEN
SOUNDS LIKE MY DREAM'S COME TRUE

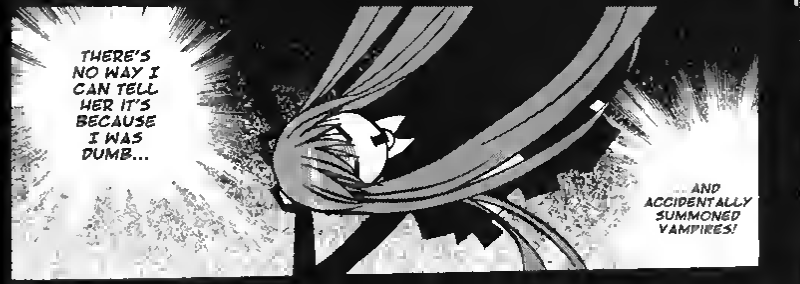
MY JEALOUSY OF HIM WAS UNBEARABLE. I LONGED TO JOURNEY, TOO.
BUT MY PATH LED HOME.
I HAD TO REVIVE MY FAMILY.
AND SO I BECAME A VAMPIRE MYSELF.
I've been had!
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW? WHAT ABOUT MY FAMILY? AND OUR CASTLE?
AND MY TOWN...?
UH, I OVERLOOKED THE FACT THAT SOMEONE WHO DIED BY A VAMPIRE
Argh!
WOULD BE REVIVED AS A VAMPIRE
...KITOR HAD A POINT ABOUT MY STUPIDITY
HE NEVER MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT THAT!
THE TOWNS-PEOPLE!
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THEM?!


MOM! DAD! WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?!
HELLO, SON! DIG IN! YOU MUST BE HUNGRY.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?
HE'S MAD WE STARTED EATING WITHOUT HIM


THIS IS ALL WRONG! TO SUCK ON A LOYAL MAID'S BLOOD--! THIS WASN'T WHAT I WANTED!


AS KITOR SAID, NOT EVERYONE CAME BACK.
MY YOUNGEST SISTER DIDN'T.

MAYBE HER SPIRIT'S BETTER OFF IN THE SIXTH WORLD.
WH-WHY...?
WHO KILLED HER, BIG BROTHER? WHY'D SHE HAVE TO DIE?


THERE'S NO WAY I CAN TELL HER IT'S BECAUSE I WAS DUMB...
...AND ACCIDENTALLY SUMMONED VAMPIRES!

UH... WELL, YOU SEE...
IT'S GRIFFORD'S FAULT. HE REVIVED THE SUPREME EVIL RULER, AND...
SORRY FOR SELLING YOU OUT, FRIEND
...HE RAN AWAY.

GRIFFORD?
THERE WASN'T A SHRED OF DOUBT IN HER MIND.
YES, YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THE DOMESTIC DUTIES
NO ONE IS WILLING TO WORK FOR A FAMILY OF VAMPIRES.
SINCE IT'S YOUR FRIEND WHO CURSED US, YOU TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY
LET'S ENJOY LIFE.
OKAY!
AS SOON AS THE RUMORS OF OUR VAMPIRISM SPREAD...
...THE TOWNSPEOPLE LEFT ONE BY ONE.
HUH? ME?
THIS... ISN'T WHAT I WANTED.
NOT THIS EITHER...
NO...

I CAN'T LIVE LIKE THIS!
Running Away

I WON'T COME BACK TIL I'VE MADE MY OWN WAY IN THE WORLD!

?!!

SOME-THING'S WRONG.

WHEN DID OUR TOWN BECOME SO DESOLATE?
WELL, ALL THE MORE REASON TO GET OUT OF HERE!

...HEL...

HELP...
...YOU THERE...

A VILLAGER! WHO WOULD DO SUCH--
!
스윽..
OH, JUST GREAT!
I WAS A HUMAN BEING NOT SO LONG AGO, YOU KNOW!
GLAD WE FOLLOWED THOSE RUMORS!
Ha ha
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
LITTLE BABY VAMPIRE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO FIGHT! PIECE O' CAKE!
HE'S OVER THERE!
-!
SO THE RUMOR ABOUT VAMPIRES WAS TRUE.
HELLO, BABY VAMPIRE.
VAMPIRE HUNTERS?!

I SHOULD HIDE DOWN THERE!
ARE YOU SURE IT'S THIS WAY?
YES! KEEP ON GOING!
....
MOST OF THE PEOPLE IN THE TOWN HAVE FLED
THERE'S NO LIVELIHOOD FOR US THERE, SO WE STAYED HERE
COWERING WHEN VAMPIRE HUNTERS OR LOOTERS COME
SPENDING OUR LIVES SILENT AS SHADOWS...
M-MY LORD...?
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT OUR NICE TOWN WOULD COME TO THIS?
!!
NO! WAKE UP!
LITTLE GIRL! LITTLE GIRL!
OPEN YOUR EYES!
NOOOOO!

IT'S ALL MY FAULT. EVERYTHING.
THE FATE OF THIS TOWN, THE TOWNSPEOPLE, THIS CHILD... IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
THEY'RE AFTER ME. I CAN'T BE SEEN WITH THE OTHERS.
!
OVER THERE!
CHILD VAMPIRES ARE WORTH TWICE AS MUCH!
OI HE'S A FAST ONE!
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING ABOUT THEIR LIVES.
HOW SELFISH I WAS TO RUN AWAY.
BINGO!
bang
HERE! THE SOUNDS CAME FROM HERE!
MY LORD?
!!

AGH, IF ONLY I HAD POWER...
BY CHANCE, I FLED TO SOMEWHERE FAMILIAR...
JUST ASK ME.
YOU WANT POWER? YOU WANT TO KILL? I CAN GRANT YOU YOUR DESIRES.
THE SPIRIT TREE. I SUSPECT IT DREW ME TO IT.
IF ONLY I HAD POWER, THOSE GUYS WOULD BE NOTHING!
SHUT UP! YOUR MASTER TOLD ME NEVER TO DEAL WITH YOU!
I'M NOT GOING TO FALL FOR YOUR SWEET-TALK! SO GO BACK TO BEING A TREE!

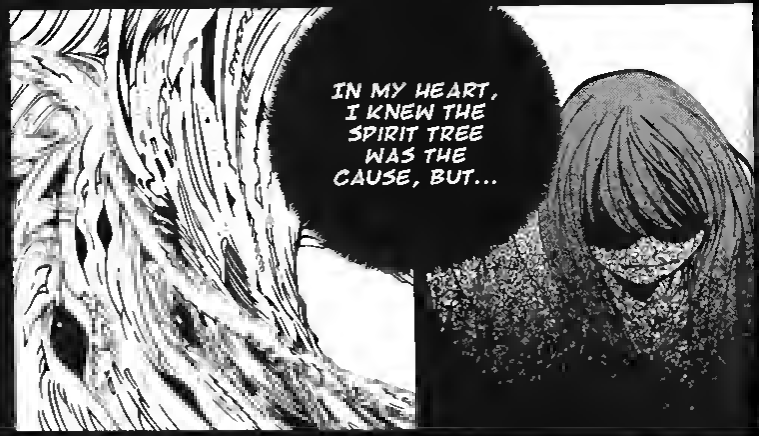
EXAGGERATION. PROBLEMS DON'T ALWAYS ARISE.
I JUST WANT TO HELP YOU.
I CAN MAKE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO PROTECT YOUR TOWN. ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WANT?
YES, TRUST ME.
WHAT CHANGED?
DID MY SKIN GET SMOOTHER?
KITOE'S WARNING TEMPORARILY SLIPPED MY MIND.
YOU'RE TOAST, KID.
TRY IT OUT.
YOU'VE GOT NOWHERE TO RUN.
ALL I DID WAS FEEL ANGRY AT THEM...
...BUT THE POWER THAT SURGED THROUGH ME...

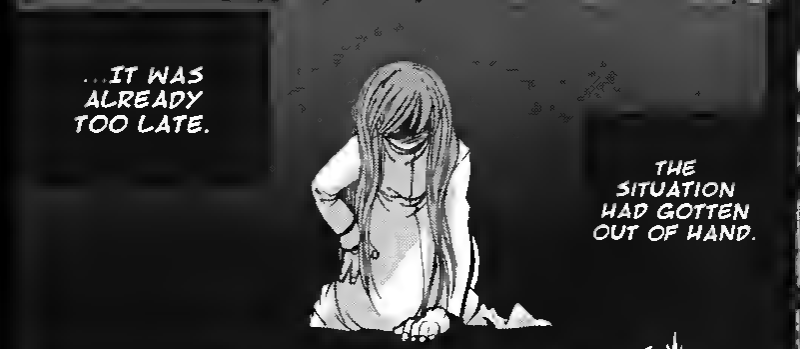
DIE!
HE TOLD ME NOT TO!
SOMETHING BAD'S GONNA HAPPEN FOR SURE!
WHAT AM I GONNA DO?
.....
NOTHING BAD SEEMS TO HAVE HAPPENED...
...WAS BEYOND MY IMAGINATION
HOW DO YOU LIKE IT? NOT BAD, HUH?

DID THE SUPREME EVIL RULER LIE?
IF THAT'S THE CASE ...
WE CAN'T SUFFER ALONE-- WE MUST SHARE OUR PAIN WITH THE WORLD!
...I CAN USE THIS POWER TO KEEP OUT INVADERS.
I'LL REBUILD THE TOWN AND OUR LANDS.
MAYBE THINGS WILL TURN OUT ALL RIGHT AFTER ALL.
I WAS SO YOUNG AND NAÏVE BACK THEN.
THAT TREE MUST HAVE BEEN CHORTLING WITH JOY OVER MY STUPIDITY.
FOR A TIME I THWARTED INVADERS...
...AND REPAIRED RUN-DOWN BUILDINGS.
SHOW OFF.
THOUGH MY FATHER GRUMBLED ABOUT IT...

...WHEN PEOPLE BEGAN TRICKLING BACK, I WAS VINDICATED...
I'VE FINALLY FOUND MY CALLING!
I'LL MAKE THE JADE REGION THE MOST PROSPEROUS PLACE IN THE FIFTH WORLD!
...IF ONLY FOR A SHORT TIME.

THERE WERE BIZARRE OCCURRENCES.
PEOPLE STARTED TO DIE FOR NO REASON.


IN MY HEART, I KNEW THE SPIRIT TREE WAS THE CAUSE, BUT...

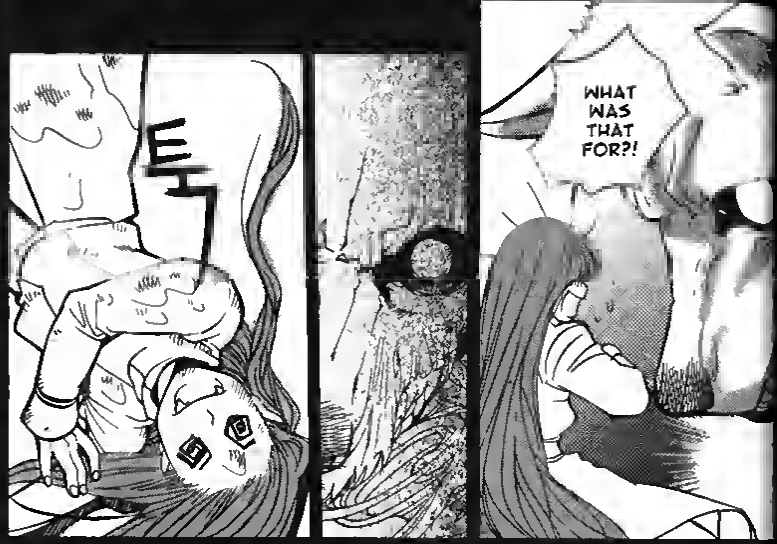

...IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE.
THE SITUATION HAD GOTTEN OUT OF HAND.

AND THERE WAS WORSE TO COME...

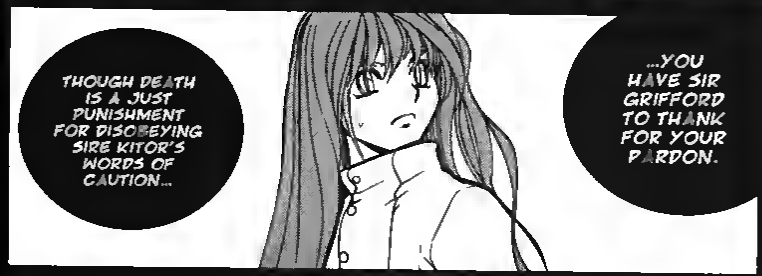
WHY?!
IT HURTS SO MUCH! DO SOMETHING!
GATHER MORE SPIRITS TO EASE YOUR THROBBING PAIN.

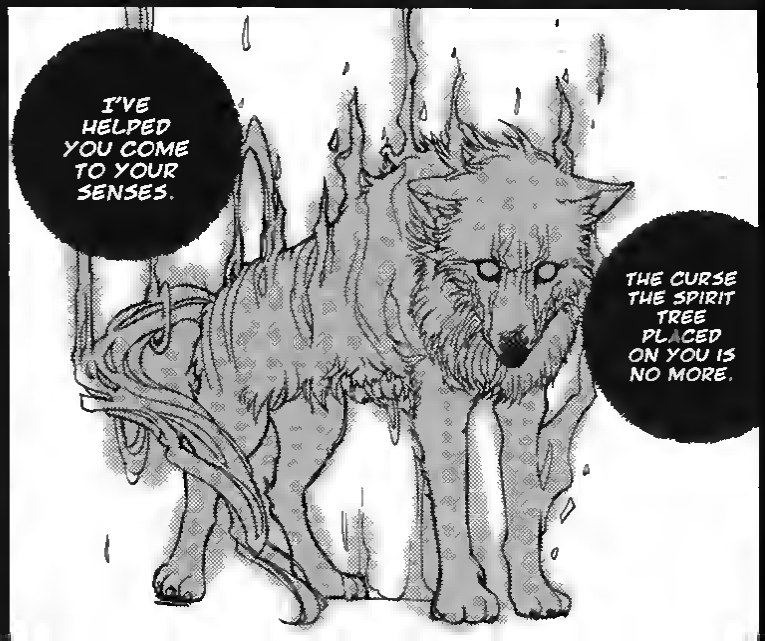
LOOKS LIKE YOUR DUMB FRIEND USED THE POWERS OF THE SPIRIT TREE.
JUST WHAT EXACTLY IS THE SPIRIT TREE?
IT'S THE FOURTH WORLD'S SOURCE OF POWER.
WE EXIST BECAUSE OF IT.
THE SIXTH WORLD HAS THE TREE, TOO. EOMAIA LIES TO PEOPLE IN THE NAME OF THE GODDESS TO STRENGTHEN HER TREE.
THE SPIRITS TRAPPED IN THE SPIRIT TREE ARE DANGEROUS.
THEY LONG TO WREAK HAVOC IN THE HUMAN WORLD.
YOU SAID YOU COULD CONTROL THE SPIRIT TREE, RIGHT?
THEN GET YOUR BUTT BACK TO THE FIFTH WORLD AND SAVE MY HOMETOWN!

HOW... DID THIS HAPPEN...?!
ARGH!
EEK! DON'T HARM US, MY LORD!
FLEE! I CAN'T HELP MYSELF!
HOW DARE YOU?!
ARGH!

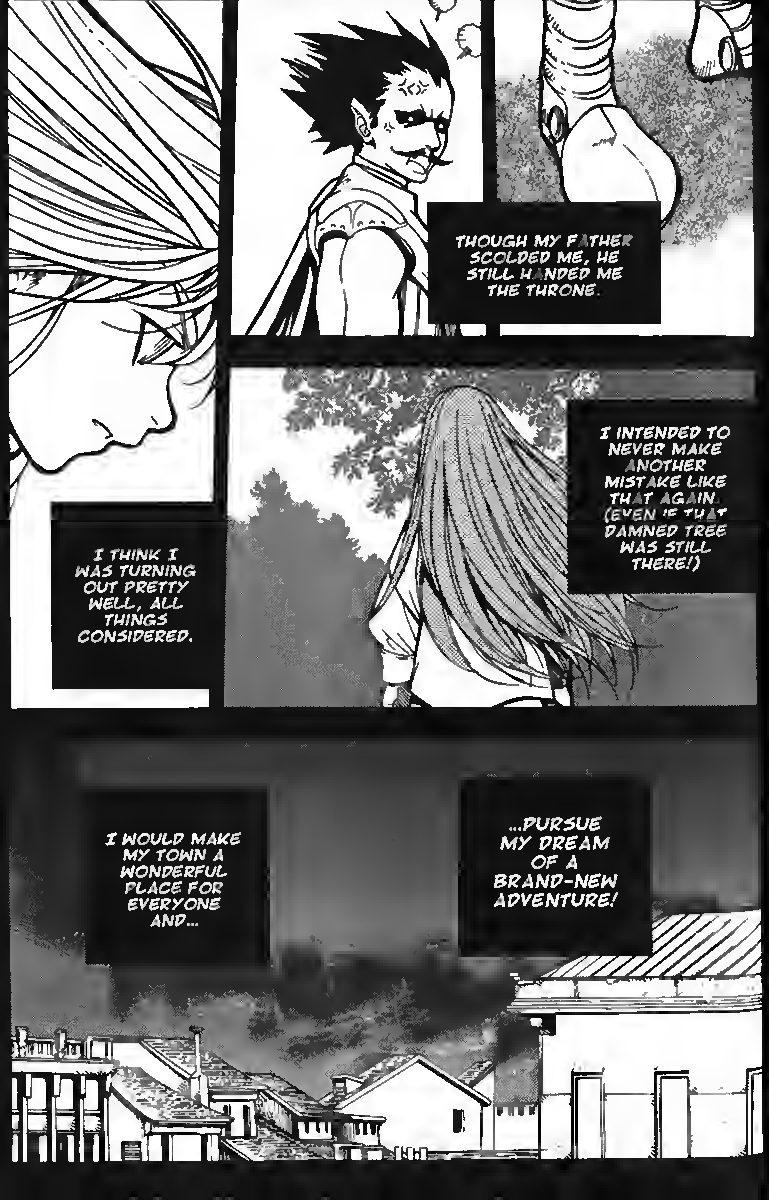

WHAT WAS THAT FOR?!

I'M BEOWULF LUPUS, HERE BY ORDER OF SIRE KITOR


THOUGH DEATH IS A JUST PUNISHMENT FOR DISOBEYING SIRE KITOR'S WORDS OF CAUTION...
...YOU HAVE SIR GRIFFORD TO THANK FOR YOUR PARDON.


I'VE HELPED YOU COME TO YOUR SENSES.
THE CURSE THE SPIRIT TREE PLACED ON YOU IS NO MORE.

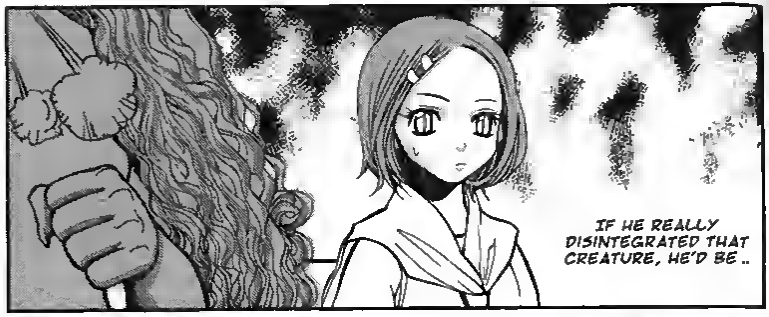
HE SAYS, "PROTECT MY TOWN, AND MY HOMELAND. LET'S MEET UP AGAIN LATER..."
"...AFTER BOTH OF US BECOME SOMETHING GREAT."


THOUGH MY FATHER SCOLDED ME, HE STILL HANDED ME THE THRONE.
I INTENDED TO NEVER MAKE ANOTHER MISTAKE LIKE THAT AGAIN. (EVEN IF THAT DAMNED TREE WAS STILL THERE!)
I THINK I WAS TURNING OUT PRETTY WELL, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED.
I WOULD MAKE MY TOWN A WONDERFUL PLACE FOR EVERYONE AND...
...PURSUE MY DREAM OF A BRAND-NEW ADVENTURE!

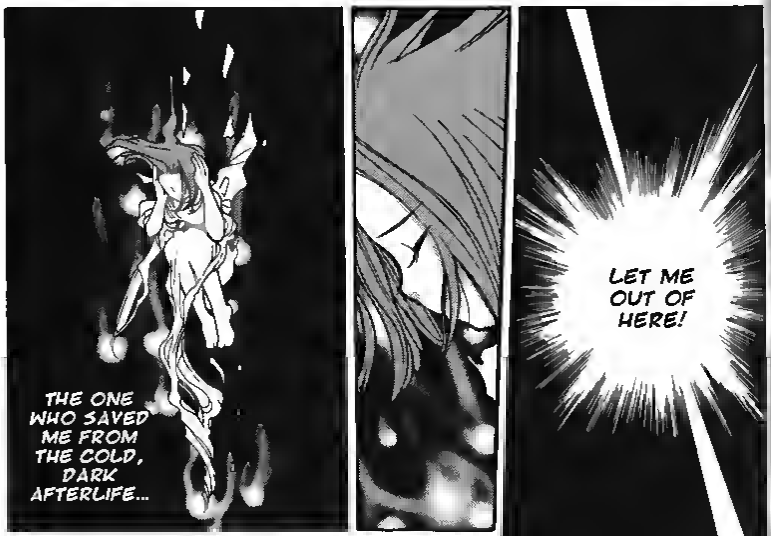
KITOR SAID THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY MORE HELPING.
MEANING THE ONLY WAY TO PREVENT THIS IS...
THIS TREE IS GETTING CREEPIER AS TIME PASSES.
Might as well finish the laundry
A LOT HAS CHANGED, BUT IT'S STILL DESOLATE.
SHUT UP. ANYWAY, WHAT'S WITH YOU RUNNING AWAY?
HUH?
!!

THERE WAS A... REBEL-LION.
THEY TRIED TO WIN ME OVER, BUT I TURNED THEM DOWN.
AND NOW, SIRE KITOR IS NOT THE SAME SIRE KITOR AS BEFORE.
SO IF I WANT TO FINISH UP WITH THAT KID, I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO HOLE UP HERE.
JD! NO HITTING!
THIS MONSTER IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO GIVE UP YOUR LIFE AND CAREER FOR?!
OKAY! I'LL TELL YOU WHERE GRANDPA IS! JUST PLEASE, STOP YOUR ATTACKS!
BUT ONLY AFTER WE LEAVE THIS TOWN! HURRY!
WHAT'S WITH HIM ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WHO KNOWS, DEAR?

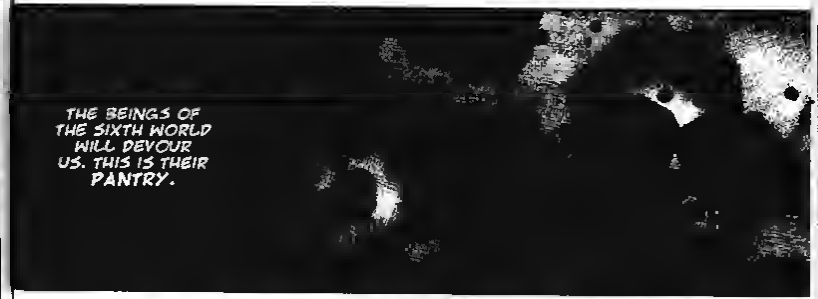
YOU THINK I'M GOING TO FALL FOR THAT?
100
Whoa!
IT CRUMBLED?!
HOW'D THE BOY DO THAT?
?
T-THERE! HA HA! DID YOU SEE MY POWERS?
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH! YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH POWER TO DEFEAT HIM!
THERE MUST BE ANOTHER EXPLANATION!


IF HE REALLY DISINTEGRATED THAT CREATURE, HE'D BE ..

THIS IS HUGE!
I CAN REPAY HER FOR HER GRACE!


THE ONE WHO SAVED ME FROM THE COLD, DARK AFTERLIFE...
LET ME OUT OF HERE!

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU HERE BEFORE. YOU MUST BE NEW, CHILD SPIRIT...
WHERE AM I? WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?
WE'RE INSIDE THE SPIRIT TREE OF THE SIXTH WORLD.


THE BEINGS OF THE SIXTH WORLD WILL DEVOUR US. THIS IS THEIR PANTRY.

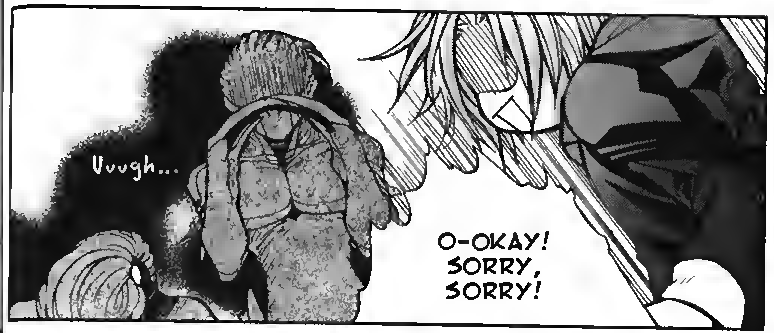
NO WAY...
THIS IS THE "HEAVEN" THEY PROMISED.

NO! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
THIS MUST BE A DREAM! THIS CAN'T BE HEAVEN!
AND THEN, WITHOUT WARNING, I WAS PULLED OUTSIDE...
...TO A PLACE AS SOFT AND GENTLE AS THE MORNING.
YOU'RE UP!
ARE YOU OKAY?
?
WELCOME TO HEAVEN.
LADY EOMAIA WAS THE LIGHT ITSELF.
THIS IS A CHANCE TO [illegible] FOR HER GRACIOUSNESS.
HOW SHALL I GO ABOUT THIS?
ARE YOU SCARED?
COME ON AND FOLLOW ME!
WHAT, DON'T YOU TRUST ME?
WHAT AM I THINKING? I'VE GOT NO BACKUP.
ALL I HAVE IS THE FACT THAT GRANDPA GREW UP HERE...

SURE, I'LL LET YOU JUST RUN OFF!
NO MORE JOKES! JUST TELL ME WHERE HE IS!
SHE'S NOT FALLING FOR MY BLUFF!
!!
THEY'RE... BOWING?

HEY... YOU GUYS...
Hell!
HUH?
LADY EOMAIA WILL BE PLEASED TO KNOW.
...FOURTH WORLD ROYALTY!
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? ATTACK HIM!
I MEAN IT!!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THEM?
THEY'RE NOT LISTENING TO ME AT ALL.
YES, THIS JUST CONFIRMS IT.
HE'S REALLY_
WHY AREN'T YOU LISTENING TO ME?! I SAID ATTACK HIM!

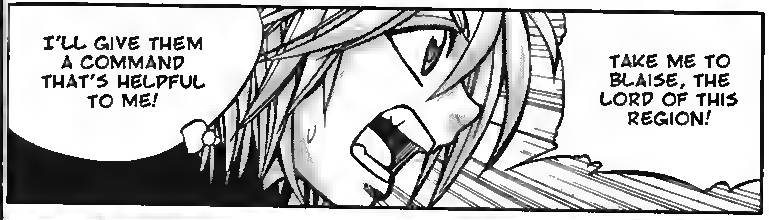
ATTACK HIM!
ATTACK!!


Uuugh...
O-OKAY! SORRY, SORRY!

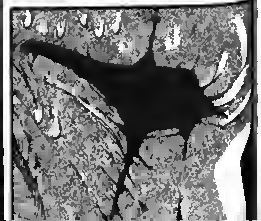
ARE THESE LIZARDS TOKENS OF YOUR LOYALTY?

MAYBE THEY'RE SCARED 'CUZ I DEFEATED THAT OTHER ONE EARLIER?

L-LISTEN UP! I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A COMMAND!
DO TEN PUSH-UPS, SPIN AROUND TEN TIMES IN PLACE, AND THEN GO "BOW-WOW"!


I'LL GIVE THEM A COMMAND THAT'S HELPFUL TO ME!
TAKE ME TO BLAISE, THE LORD OF THIS REGION!

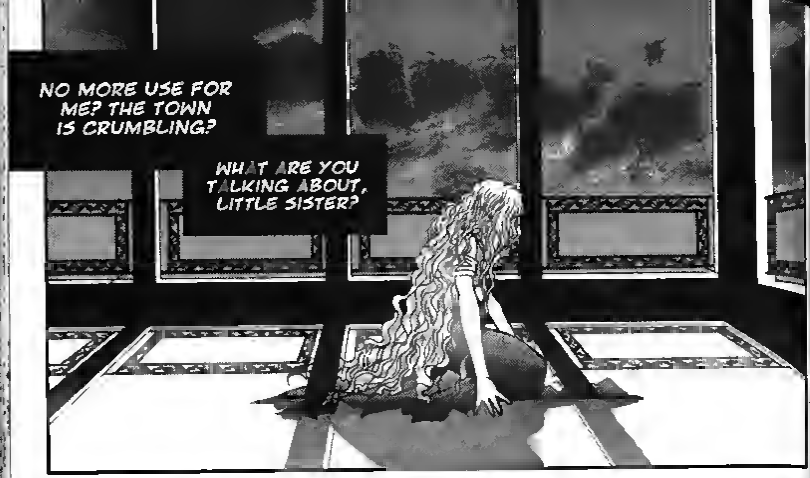
...



COOL.

LAUGH WHILE YOU CAN YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET INSIDE THE CASTLE.
IT'S PROTECTED BY A FORCE SHIELD THAT OUTSIDERS CAN'T PENETRATE
HMM?
DID I PASS THROUGH SOMETHING?
IMPOSSIBLE. HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN?
L-LOOK, I'M BLEED-ING...
WHY?
YOU'RE BEING EATEN BY THE SPIRIT TREE.
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU BORROW ITS POWER
I HAVE NO MORE USE FOR YOU, OLDER SISTER
WHAT...?

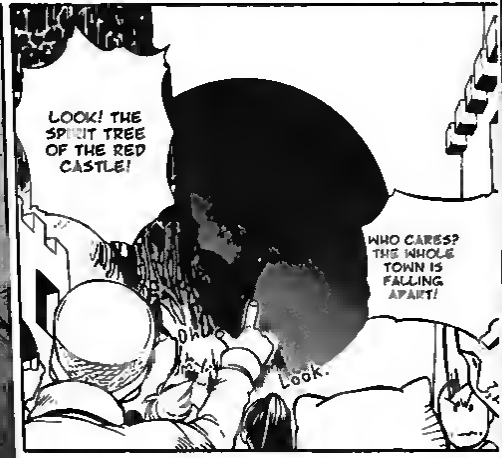
!!
I COULD BE IN REAL DANGER IF I DON'T ESCAPE FROM THIS TREE SOON!
BUT IF SHE'S IN THIS WORLD...
...THEN THAT MEANS...
HUH?
MY LITTLE SISTER?

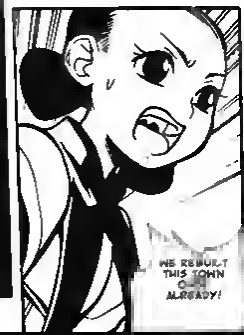

NO MORE USE FOR ME? THE TOWN IS CRUMBLING?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, LITTLE SISTER?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.

YOU'RE ALIVE?
WE ALL THOUGHT THAT YOU HAD DIED!
IT WAS JUST A BAD DREAM
DO I LOOK LIKE A GHOST TO YOU?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON...

I CAN'T REMEMBER...
...ANYTHING...


LOOK! THE SPIRIT TREE OF THE RED CASTLE!
WHO CARES? THE WHOLE TOWN IS FALLING APART!
Look.


WE REBUILT THIS TOWN ONCE ALREADY!

WHERE'S BLAISE AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!

I HAVE TO.. MY LEG...
IF I DON'T, THE TREE...
SURE, IT'S GOING TO HURT LIKE CRAZY, BUT COME ON! JUST DO IT! I'M A MAN!
I'M A VAMPIRE, SO MY LEG WILL REGENERATE! THERE'S NO REASON TO HESITATE!
IT'LL JUST HURT LIKE CRAZY, THAT'S ALL!
I HAVE TO HURRY AND SAVE CARMEN AND THE TOWN!
THIS IS ALL BECAUSE MY SISTER'S SUCH AN IDIOT. WELL, I HOPE SHE'S OKAY.
SHE MUST HAVE BEEN HAUNTED A LONG TIME BY OUR YOUNGEST SISTER. I DIDN'T THINK THE SIXTH WORLD WOULD KEEP AN EYE ON US.
WHAT'S SO EVIL ABOUT US?
WHAT AM I THINKING?! THERE'S GOTTA BE ANOTHER (LESS PAINFUL) WAY!
GET THIS THING OUTTA MY SIGHT!
ㅎㅇㅈ

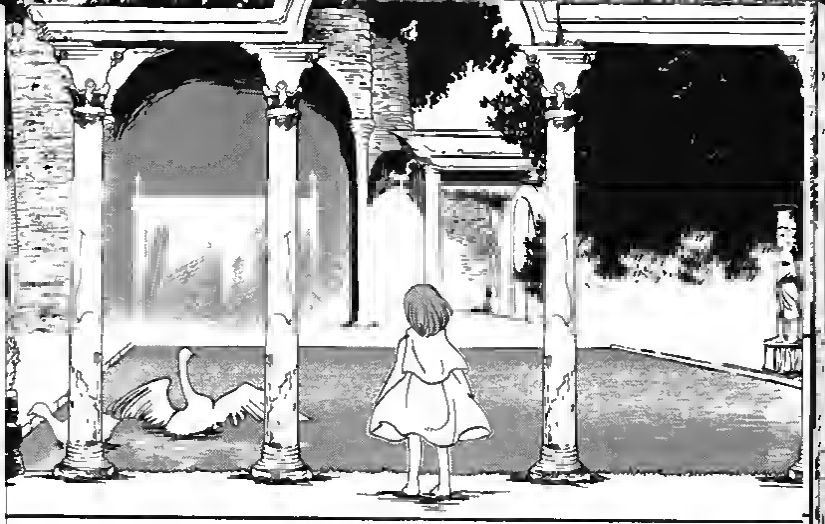
BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO THINK OF ANOTHER WAY!
HEY, DUDE!
Uhh!
THE TOWN'S BEING TORN APART--
--AND THE "LORD" IS PLAYING WITH A TREE.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
WAIT. JD PASSED THROUGH THE FORCE SHIELD, AND ON THE BACK OF A MEGALIT NO LESS...
GRIFFORD, JUST WHO IS THIS KID?
LISTEN! I KNOW YOU RAN OFF AND TOLD ME YOU COULDN'T KEEP YOUR PROMISE TO HELP ME!
BUT THESE ARE YOUR OWN PEOPLE THAT ARE IN DANGER! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?! OR IS THIS WHAT YOU WANTED TO HAPPEN?!
WHAT PART OF ME BEING SHACKLED TO A TREE DIDN'T YOU NOTICE?!
BIG DEAL! THEY'RE JUST TREE VINES!
I'M COMING DOWN THERE TO HAVE A WORD WITH YOU!
?!

SMELLS LIKE GIFFORD'S ENERGY...
GET HIM... GET RID OF HIM...
CARMEN?
ACK!
GREAT, SHE'S LOST CONTROL.
...
WHA-WHA-WHAT'S THIS?! IT FEELS GROSS!
DAMN IT, CARMEN!
DON'T SPEAK TO ME!

WHY IS THAT MAN SO STILL? HAS SOMEONE SEALED HIM AWAY?
HE LOOKS LIKE A CORPSE. IT'S CREEPY...
WHAT'S GOING ON? I'M FLOATING?
Farther Down
ON TOP OF THAT, THE AIR IS REALLY HEAVY DOWN HERE. I SHOULDN'T STICK AROUND.
BUT WHAT IF I'M TRAPPED?
WEIRD FOR THIS PLACE TO EXIST INSIDE A TREE.
BUT IT'S STRANGELY FAMILIAR...

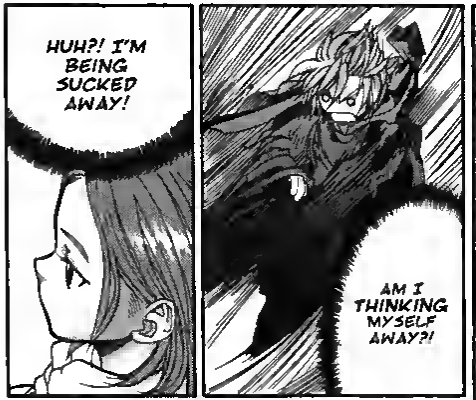
!!
I HEARD WHEN GRIFFORD USED THE SPIRIT TREE, HE BECAME MORE POWERFUL. BUT IF OUR HATRED IS GREATER...
HEY! SHE'S LYING!
SHE'S EVIL!
WE HAVE TO HATE! ONLY HATE CAN GIVE US THE POWER.
ONLY HATRED CAN CONTROL THE SPIRIT TREE!
HUH? WHAT THE...?
THESE ARE THE SAME KIDS WHO JUST SUMMONED DEMONS?
WE MUST SAVE OUR TOWN AND AVENGE OUR FAMILY.
BUT, WE'RE REALLY NOT SUPPOSED TO USE THE SPIRIT TREE...
NEVERMIND THAT! DON'T YOU REMEMBER...
...HOW TERRIBLE OUR LIVES WERE?! WHAT WE WENT THROUGH?!
GRIFFORD IS OUR ENEMY. YET OUR BROTHER CONTINUES TO SIDE WITH HIM.
WE'LL HAVE TO DO THIS ON OUR OWN. OUR BROTHER IS USELESS.

A DAY.
IS THIS THE PRICE SHE HAS TO PAY FOR THE POWER SHE USED?
IT'S GOING TO KILL HER VERY SOON...

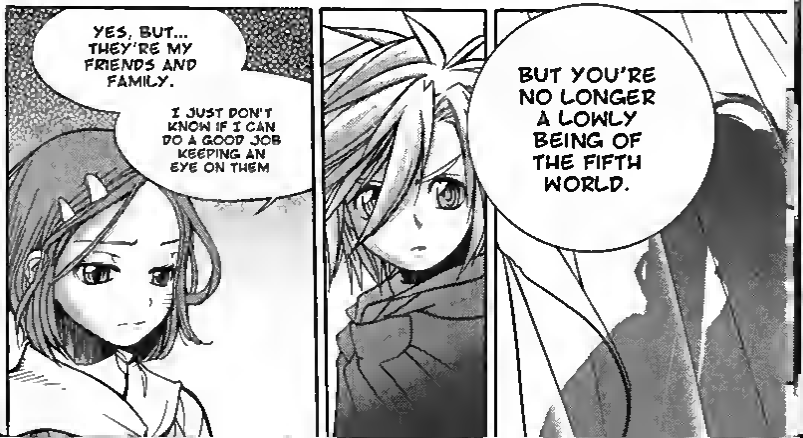


WHY'S HER SO-CALLED "LITTLE SISTER" DOING SUCH A THING?

ARE YOU READY TO DESCEND?


HUH?! I'M BEING SUCKED AWAY!
AM I THINKING MYSELF AWAY?!

I'VE BEEN TRAVELING TO PLACES AS SOON AS I THINK ABOUT THEM.
LIKE I'M GETTING A REPORT...


YES, BUT... THEY'RE MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY.
I JUST DON'T KNOW IF I CAN DO A GOOD JOB KEEPING AN EYE ON THEM
BUT YOU'RE NO LONGER A LOWLY BEING OF THE FIFTH WORLD.

WHEN I GRANTED YOU THE GIFT OF LIFE, YOU BECAME A BEING OF THE SIXTH WORLD.
DO NOT FEEL SORRY FOR THE LOWLY BEINGS OF THE FIFTH WORLD.

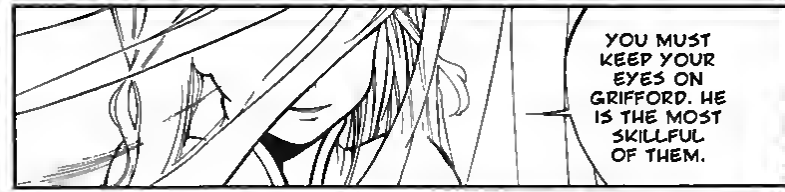
LADY EOMAIA...
...

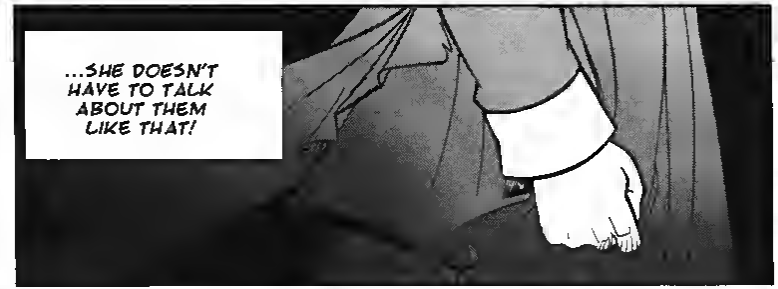
GIFT OF LIFE? YEAH RIGHT! THAT'S LIKE MAKING A PIG YOUR PET INSTEAD OF EATING IT! WHERE'S GRACE IN THAT?

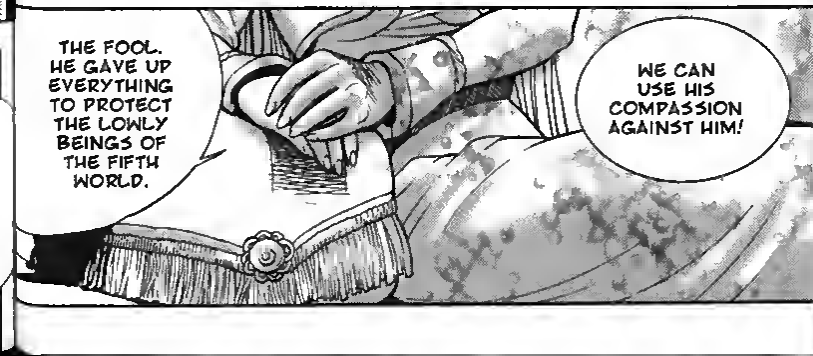
??
?
THEY ARE LOWLY, SIMPLE BEINGS.

THEY SLOBBER OVER THEMSELVES FOR A SMILE FROM MY LIPS.
THEY'RE LOW AS DOGS. THEY'LL FOLLOW ANYONE, SO LONG AS THEY DON'T HAVE TO THINK.
?!

I CAN'T ARGUE AGAINST HER, BUT...


YOU MUST KEEP YOUR EYES ON GRIFFORD. HE IS THE MOST SKILLFUL OF THEM.


...SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THEM LIKE THAT!


THE FOOL. HE GAVE UP EVERYTHING TO PROTECT THE LOWLY BEINGS OF THE FIFTH WORLD.
WE CAN USE HIS COMPASSION AGAINST HIM!

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, NOBLE FOLLOWER.
THAT'S IT! I'VE HEARD ENOUGH!
GRAB HIM! IT'S A NEW LIFE FORM!
WHAT THE HECK?
POSSESS HIS BODY. WE'LL USE IT TO ESCAPE FROM HERE!
EOMAIA, HUH?! I'LL REMEMBER YOU!
NEXT TIME I SEE YOU, I'LL SHUT YOUR TRAP FOR GOOD!
THAT VOICE!
DON'T YOU DARE! DON'T YOU SEE WHO HE IS?!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SAW, BUT IT PISSED ME OFF!
WHO'S THAT PSYCHO WHO CALLS HERSELF EOMAIA?!
.....
SHE'S A GODDESS.
AND THE MOST POPULAR ONE AT THAT.
YOU'RE INTERESTING, KID! IT'S NOT TIME FOR YOU TO BE HERE YET!
JD? HOW DID YOU GET OUT?!
IT LET HIM GO.
YOU MUST'VE TASTED PRETTY AWFUL.
I HAVEN'T BATHED FOR TWO WEEKS.
HMM. HE TAMED THE MEGALITS...
...GOT SPAT OUT WHOLE BY THE SPIRIT TREE AND HE KNOWS ABOUT EOMAIA. THAT COULD ONLY MEAN...
...HE CAN CONTROL THE SPIRIT TREE!
What a crock, that Eomaia

JD, CAN YOU UNTIE ME?
I'M TETHERED TO THE TREE, THANKS TO CARMEN.
JEEZ. HOW PATHETIC YOU COULDN'T UNTIE THIS?
HUH?
JD.
HEY, YOU GODDAMN TREE! RELEASE YOUR VINE! I DON'T CARE WHO ORDERED YOU TO DO THIS BEFORE...
...BUT I'M YOUR MASTER NOW! MAKE IT SNAPPY!
DON'T JUST THINK IT, BUT COMMAND IT LIKE YOU OWN IT!
I MUST LOOK SO DUMB...
Sigh
100
Ack!
STOP! STOP!
TRY TO IMAGINE THAT YOU CAN TALK TO THE TREE, THEN COMMAND IT.
CONCENTRATE AND TRY THAT.
IT'S NOT A MATTER OF BRUTE FORCE!
THE SPIRIT TREE MUST BE HANDLED WITH BOXES.

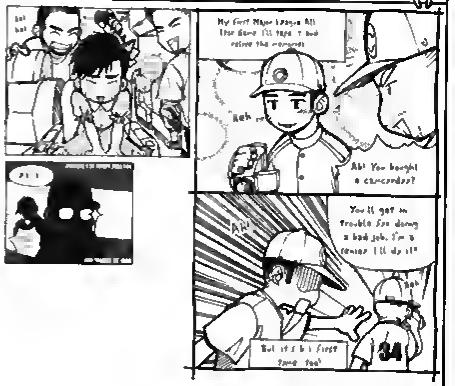
I GUESS I BETTER FOLLOW HIM
HE'S PROBABLY LOOKING FOR HIS SISTER.
YEAH! I DID IT!
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?!
I'M COMING, CARMEN! PLEASE BE ALL RIGHT!
I HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE!

CARMEN! IS THAT YOU?! ARE YOU OKAY?!
WHOA, YOUR SISTER'S A REAL MONSTER!
YOU STAY AWAY! IT'S GOING TO BE DANGEROUS HERE!
AND WATCH YOUR MOUTH! SHE'S NOT A MONSTER!
...I'LL PUSH HER INTO A ROOM WHERE I CAN SEAL HER IN.
OKAY, FINE. YOU LEAD CARMEN THIS WAY, JD. THEN..
NO PROBLEM!
REALLY?
RUNNING AWAY IS MY SPECIALTY!
BROWNIE POINTS, HERE I COME!
ALL RIGHT. LET'S BEGIN.

!!
I GUESS SHE'S OVER THERE
LISTEN. CARMEN'S NO MONSTER-- SHE'S JUST BEEN POSSESSED BY THE SPIRIT TREE.
I CAN'T SEE YOU BEING DEPENDABLE, BUT I HAVE NO ONE ELSE TO ASK.
I BEG YOU.
HELP ME RESCUE CARMEN...WITHOUT HURTING HER...
서억
!!
ARGH!
슥..

ONCE YOU FIND HER, DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO APPEASE HER. DON'T RELY ON FORCE.
LEAD HER TO THE TOP OF THE NORTHERN TOWER.
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO APPEASE THAT THING?!
STAY TUNED FOR RECAST VOLUME 4!

YOU ASKED FOR IT! (A COMPENDIUM OF USELESS STORIES)

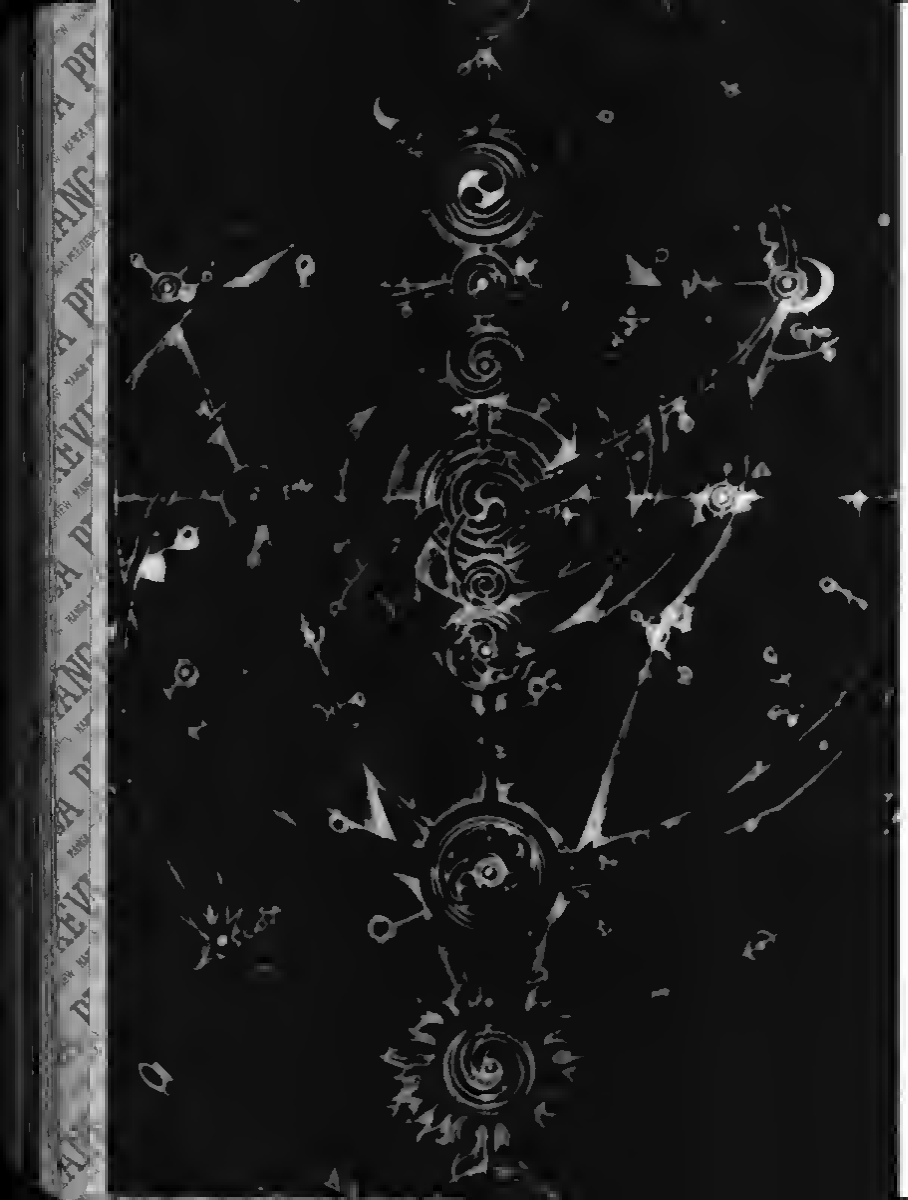


CHANGING INTERESTS

I'VE LOVED MOVIES MY WHOLE LIFE. THE FIRST MOVIE I EVER SAW IN THEATERS WAS A 007 FILM: *MOONRAKER*. LOOKING AT THE RELEASE DATE, I GUESS I WAS FOUR. NEEDLESS TO SAY, I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED IN THE MOVIE AT ALL. WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, I LOVED A *BETTER TOMORROW*, AND *THE KILLER*. (I SAW THE MOVIE NINE TIMES OVER THE THREE-DAY RENTAL PERIOD!) WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, IT WAS *THE UNTOUCHABLES* AND *TERMINATOR 2*. DURING MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS, METALLICA WAS A GOD TO ME. I USED TO CHANT AND DO A BUNCH OF DUMB THINGS WITH THAT GENIUS C-SOMETHING, WHO IS NOW MAJORING IN MUSIC AT THE SEOUL INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS (AND THEN I DIDN'T EVEN GO WHEN THEY TOURED IN KOREA!) MY CURRENT INTEREST IS MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL. I ROOT FOR THE KOREAN PLAYERS. (EVEN IF I DON'T TRY TO, I ALWAYS END UP DOING IT.) ALTHOUGH THIS YEAR WASN'T SO GOOD, IT'D BE GREAT IF THEY REALLY DO AWESOME NEXT YEAR. TAEJEONG! I'M SORRY FOR LEAVING YOUR NAME OUT IN VOLUME ONE! THANKS FOR HELPING ME OUT WITH THE DRAFT!

2003.11.

RECAST
Seung-Hui Kye
Looking to get on Blaise's good side, JD accompanies the vampire lord on his journey to find the one who can remove Carmen's curse. This person just happens to be a werewolf. But when JD and Blaise find their werewolf stuffed and mounted in the town of Alligator Eve's village square, the hapless duo is forced to search out his successor, accompanied by some less than savory company...
4



RECAST™

JD finally meets Blaise, the vampire lord his grandfather told him to seek. But Blaise surprises JD by telling him that he can't be of any help—and he leaves JD in the hands of an angry mob of townspeople. An incident involving JD's grandfather seems to be the source of Blaise's grumpiness, and maybe the cause of a premature end to JD's adventures!

"*Recast* is an action fantasy Manga with a splash of Harry Potter and some high fantasy... Seung-Hui Kye excels at drawing action scenes, especially turning even a small fight into an epic battle that bursts from the constraints of the panel borders."
-comicbookbin.com